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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. International Association of Applied Psychology (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) is the oldest worldwide association of scholars and practitioners of the discipline of psychology. Its goal is to establish contact between those who work in this field, and to advance scientific and social development.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: (a) Yearly participation in the Planning and Media Committees of the annual Department of Public Information and non-governmental organization (NGO) conferences held in September in New York, Paris and Mexico City; co-moderators and discussants at Midday Workshops; co-founding and leading the "Student Journalism Program"; (b) Attended and reported on weekly Department of Public Information briefings, New York; (c) Met with United Nations agencies and missions to ensure the inclusion of psychosocial and organizational issues in United Nations affairs; (d) Represented at the Committee on Mental Health and the International Day of Older Persons, New York; (e) Participated in the Planning Committee and co-chaired panels for the Annual Psychology Day at the United Nations (2007 and 2008, New York); (f) May and November 2006, New York: conducted a survey (with the pro bono support of Sirota Survey Intelligence™) of NGO representatives about the working relationship between the United Nations and NGO representatives (sponsored by the United Nations NGO/Department of Public Information Executive Committee and supported by the Department of Public Information). Presented results at day-long Department of Public Information communications workshop in November 2006 entitled "Surveying for change"; (g) Hosted an award-winning public service television programme called United Nations Profiles, interviewing United Nations NGO members; (h) 28 June 2007, New York: met with the United States Mission liaison with the Economic and Social Council to discuss applying organizational psychology to the work of Council staff; (i) 18 October 2007 and 13 December 2007, New York: met with NGO/Department of Public Information Executive Committee members to discuss a follow-up survey of NGO representatives; (j) April 2008: joined the Global Task Force on Organizational Psychology for Poverty Reduction; (k) Board Member of the Committee on Mental Health and also the Psychosocial Director for the NGO "US Doctors for Africa", collaborating with United Nations agencies; (l) Recording Secretary, Committee on Ageing; will be co-chair for the workgroup on trauma for the Committee on Mental Health. Two members-at-large of the Executive Committee of the Committee on Mental Health. Member, subcommittee on "A Convention for the Rights of Older Persons"; member, UNICEF Committee on Violence against Children.

Statements: (a) Contributed to and co-sponsored statement submitted to former Secretary-General Kofi Annan by psychologists in response to "In Greater Freedom" (September 2005); (b) sponsored statement (with other NGOs) for the Commission on the Status of Women about the importance of mental health in considering general health issues (2006); (c) statement on "The role of psychology in full employment and decent work for all" in connection with the Economic and

Social Council substantive session of July 2006 (21 April 2006); (d) Signed statement on behalf of IAAP on mental health, presented at the fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women; (e) signed statements on the relationship between NGOs and the United Nations; disability rights; and social development and full employment based on World Health Organization issues (2007);

Publications: United Nations Headquarters: (a) Throughout 2008, participated in a working group on attitude change for the Climate Caucus initiative, which produced a report presented to the United Nations Secretary-General (in early 2009); www.climatecaucus.net; (b) 8 January 2008, conducted an interview with the Executive Director of the United Nations Global Compact Office which was published in *The Industrial Psychologist*, April 2008; (c) 5 March 2008, conducted an interview with the then head of the New York office of the International Labour Organization which was published in the *IAAP Bulletin*, October 2008; (d) published article, "Pope Benedict at the United Nations makes the ordinary feel extraordinary" posted 19 April 2008; (e) Published "Organizational psychology and poverty reduction: 'where supply meets demand'", *Journal of Organizational Behaviour*, (2008); (f) submitted article, "How organizational psychology can and should contribute to poverty reduction" to the *Journal of Economic Psychology* (December 2008).

Conferences: (a) IAAP Congress, Athens, keynote speaker: the then Under Secretary-General for Communications at the United Nations and head of the Department of Public Information. Conducted a round table for IAAP members interested in IAAP activities at the United Nations (July 2006); (b) attended meeting of Governments on "The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction" and moderated a panel, "Integration of mental health and psychosocial issues into disaster risk reduction and the Hyogo Framework" with United Nations staff and Geneva representatives (May 2007, Geneva); (c) participated in the Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Mental Health meeting on "Reflections on the 61st annual DPI/NGO conference reaffirming human rights for all: the Universal Declaration at 60" (September 2008, Paris); (d) attended conference of the World Council of Psychotherapy and presented several workshops there (October 2008, Beijing); (e) poster session on "The role of decent work in improving health" at "Achieving global goals through innovation" conference (April 2009, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, United States);

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in field and/or at Headquarters: 2006: June, Geneva: participated in the Civil Society Forum to the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development"; **2007**: 16 November, New York: met with United Nations Population Fund staff to discuss submitting a proposal for their Global Staff Survey. **2008**: (a) 17 July, Geneva Centre for Security Policy: Geneva IAAP representatives organized an international conference on the food crisis with the group of least developed country members of the World Trade Organization (WTO), entitled "WTO rules and food crisis in the least developed countries"; (b) October, New York: met with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) staff to discuss how organizational psychology could benefit UNDP staff in their work; (c) Vienna IAAP representative participated in the development by the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs of the "Beyond 2008 declaration", including

companion resolutions in preparation for the high-level segment of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2009.

Activities in support of global principles: (a) October 2006: paper on "Business success as a world change agent" accepted for a virtual global presentation at the forum "Business as an agent of world benefit: management knowledge leading positive change"; (b) August 2008: secured membership of the Global Compact for Sirota Survey Intelligence, the employer of two IAAP representatives.

2. International Association of Democratic Lawyers (Special; 1969)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The aims of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and represented at UNESCO and UNICEF are to: (a) work together to achieve the aims set out in the Charter of the United Nations; (b) facilitate contact and exchange of views between and among lawyers and lawyers' associations of all countries to foster understanding and goodwill among them; (c) ensure common action by lawyers; (d) in the realm of law, study and practice the principles of democracy to encourage the maintenance of peace and cooperation among nations; (e) restore, defend and develop democratic rights and liberties in legislation and in practice; (f) defend and promote human and peoples' rights; (g) promote the preservation of ecology and healthy environments; (h) struggle for strict adherence to the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession; and (i) defend all peoples' rights to development and for conditions of economic equality and the enjoyment of the fruits of scientific progress and natural resources.

IADL members committed to the mission set forth above include national affiliated organizations of lawyers, legal educators and juridical professionals in more than 90 countries. Individual lawyers, jurists, legal educators and law students who are not members of national affiliates in any State are also included in our membership.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: The following events were attended by members of IADL: **2005**: (a) Co-sponsored workshop on depleted uranium with the Campaign for Abolition of Depleted Uranium Japan and the Japan International Volunteer Center (3 May, New York); (b) International Law Weekend at the Association of the Bar, City of New York (20-22 October, New York); (c) Participated in People's Action Week at the World Trade Organization's sixth annual Ministerial Conference (8-17 December, Hong Kong, China). **2006**: (a) Attended and delivered oral statement at the Arab Lawyers Union Conference (January, Damascus); (b) Human Rights Commission (March/April, Geneva); (c) Co-sponsored emergency conference with Arab Lawyers Union on "The deteriorating situation in the Middle East and international law" (26-27 August, Paris); **2007**: at United Nations Headquarters: (a) Met with Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cuba to the United Nations (January); (b) Attended briefing of International Criminal Court Coalition (January); (c) Met with Executive Director of Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice

(1 February); at United Nations Office at Geneva (d) Human Rights Council, fourth session (March/April). **2008**: (a) Human Rights Council, eighth session (June, Geneva); (b) Sponsored an international conference on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (December, Paris).

The following events were attended at United Nations Headquarters:

2005: (a) "State of the World's Children 2005" panel discussion (15 February, UNICEF Headquarters); (b) Panel discussion "From Mexico to Beijing and beyond: realization of the vision" (27 February); (c) International Women's Day panel "Gender equality beyond 2005" (8 March); (d) Commission on the Status of Women (February/March); (e) Review Conference on the Non-Proliferation Treaty (3 May); (f) Conference on Human Trafficking (18 October); (g) Security Council meeting on briefings from anti-terrorism committees (26 October); (h) Department of Public Information Non-Governmental Organization Section meeting "Critical perspectives in combating genocide" (21 November); (i) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime panel discussion on human trafficking (2 December); (j) United Nations General Assembly, Third Committee sessions (November/December); (k) Department of Public Information/NGO communications workshop on "Peace and security" (8 December); (l) United Nations Human Rights Day event on the Human Rights Council (9 December).

2006: (a) Organizational session of the Conference of NGOs (19 January); (b) Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (26-27 January); (c) Commission on the Status of Women (February/March); (d) Attended informal consultation on draft resolution on women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS (7 March); (e) Human Rights Committee (29-30 March); (f) provided logistical support and technical assistance to IADL affiliate National Lawyers Guild for a public forum on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (23 March); (g) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (26 May); (h) Special session of the General Assembly on AIDS (31 May-1 June).

2007: (a) Met with representative of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cuba (9 January); (b) Resumed session of the Assembly of States Parties Working Group on Aggression (January/February); (c) Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (May/June).

2008: (a) Commission on the Status of Women (February/March); (b) Attended sessions of the Human Rights Committee, 92nd Session (March/April).

As discussed in this quadrennial report, since its founding, the IADL has based its activities, legal strategies and international campaigns on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. We support all United Nations initiatives and disseminate information about United Nations activities to our affiliates and members throughout the world. The IADL pledges its consistent and unqualified support of the United Nations as the only hope for world peace and the ultimate eventual achievement of the economic, social and legal rights of all the peoples of the world.

3. Netherlands Association of Women's Interests, Women's Work and Equal Citizenship (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

The Netherlands Association of Women's Interests, Women's Work and Equal Citizenship (Vrouwenbelangen) was founded in 1894 as an association for women's suffrage. Today it is an advocacy organization for full participation of women in all fields of society, with an emphasis on politics, and for women's human rights. Vrouwenbelangen is affiliated with the International Alliance of Women (IAW). Vrouwenbelangen publishes a quarterly on women's rights, writes and supports petitions on women's rights nationally and internationally, and holds meetings to that effect. It is an organization of volunteers which does not receive support from the Government.

In 2005 our organization was involved in a lawsuit against the State and the SGP, a small Protestant political party that would not admit women as members and consequently denied women of their religion the right to be elected. The case was won in court, and the judges decided that the State should deny its subsidy to this party. Subsequently, the party opened its membership to women, but denied them the right to be candidates for political functions. Both the State and the party appealed the judgment, and so did Vrouwenbelangen, because our case against the party was not heard. We are in the middle of the appeals procedure.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Vrouwenbelangen campaigned for more women in politics and for women's human rights. The President and the representative to the United Nations took part in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women in 2005, 2006 and 2007. The editor of the International Newsletter attended the hearings on the Millennium Development Goals in 2006. Vrouwenbelangen strongly advocated including the actions of the Beijing Platform in the pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals. The National Board wrote a well documented letter to the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, advocating that the Netherlands sign the anti-trafficking treaty of the Council of Europe. The treaty was indeed signed, but has not yet been ratified by the Netherlands, so we are working on that goal. Many members participated in the Dutch non-governmental organization Beijing+10 campaign and the National Board decided to send the result, an Agenda for the Future, to the Dutch political parties to include in their programmes for the elections in November 2006. Vrouwenbelangen supported the findings of the Emancipation Auditing Committee, instituted by the Government of the Netherlands, by sending out a letter about anchoring gender mainstreaming in the policies of all ministries. In 2007 the National Board sent a letter to the new Minister of Emancipation of the Netherlands, whose main task is education and culture, pleading strong leadership in emancipation. Vrouwenbelangen favours a think tank on emancipation policy that can feed authorities with new insights, especially where article 5 (a) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women is concerned. We feel that prejudices and stereotypes are very harmful to women and girls. Our representative to the United Nations, and IAW representative to the Council of Europe, Anje Wiersinga MD, was instrumental in drawing attention to the right of women in Kosovo to participate in conflict resolution.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: Implicitly our organization included the Millennium Development Goals in all our work. **Goal 2. Achieve universal primary education**: In the context of IAW, Vrouwenbelangen supported free education and girls' participation in education. Although it was in 2009, our initiative, supported by IAW and many other non-governmental organizations, to petition the Government of Pakistan and the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the human right of girls in the Swat valley to education was mentioned during the session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York. **Goal 3. Promote gender equality and empower women**: Vrouwenbelangen integrated the work on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Beijing Programme of Action with our support of the Millennium Development Goals. The President, the representative to the United Nations and several of our members regularly attended the briefing and debriefing meetings our Government organized around the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women. **Goal 4. Reduce child mortality**: We fully supported our Government in its endeavours to combat perinatal mortality of babies and mothers.

Other activities: Vrouwenbelangen used its quarterly journal to write about women's history and the future of women's rights, and about national and international matters of concern. The magazine featured a column by a Member of the Parliament of the Netherlands, sometimes a Government Minister. Given the fact that there are many immigrants in the Netherlands, Vrouwenbelangen devoted an issue to social cohesion in 2007.

Over the years, our organization supported a campaign for reproductive rights in the Netherlands. On the whole, our organization supported the Government of the Netherlands in upholding women's reproductive rights, which are not recognized by some members of the European Union. The President of the organization participated in a symposium of a new women's initiative, "I'm strong enough", in Kiev in May 2008, to explain the history of Dutch women's rights, especially regarding divorce law, and to highlight the disastrous influence of corruption on women.

4. Sisters of Charity Federation (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

Aims of the Organization: The Sisters of Charity Federation is an international federation of organizations formed in 1947 to strengthen the bond of union among congregations of women religious in the Charity tradition in order to support and promote their work with those living in poverty. The Federation endeavours to alleviate and eliminate all forms of poverty through advocacy, witness, systemic change and direct service. The 16 member organizations also work towards the establishment of peace, human rights, sustainable development, social and economic development, as well as intercultural and inter-religious understanding. The Federation currently has members in 38 states in the United States, 9 Canadian provinces and 25 other countries. The affiliation provides a means of collaboration through which we work to bring about systemic and structural change so as to eliminate the root causes of poverty. Since our affiliation was granted special status,

there have been no changes in our sources of funding. Two of our member organizations have merged: the Vincentian Sisters of Pittsburgh have joined the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth. The title of the federation was officially changed from the Elizabeth Seton Federation to the Sisters of Charity Federation in July 2008 at the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council. The purpose, membership and activities of the organization remained the same.

Since our affiliation with the Economic and Social Council, the members of the Federation continue to improve their awareness of, and support for, the goals and activities of the United Nations. The Federation maintains a full-time representative and an administrative assistant in New York. In addition, two members of the organization in the New York area are active on various non-governmental organization committees. The main representative is responsible for disseminating information about the United Nations and encouraging members' participation in United Nations activities and global advocacy. Individual members are responsible for reporting on best practices and advising the non-governmental organization New York office of continuing needs in their areas of expertise and work, and advocating, at least monthly, concerning United Nations issues affecting those living in poverty.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: The Federation participated at the following: (a) **Commission for Social Development**: The representative is an active member of the NGO Committee on Social Development — a committee of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations. The representative and other Federation members attended the session of the NGO Committee on Social Development held at United Nations Headquarters, in February 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008. The representative submitted written statements and collaborated with others on oral statements presented at the Commission. The Federation also co-sponsored a side event at the Commission ("Education and work: a collaborative partnership", 11 February 2008). The Federation was involved in extensive work for poverty eradication, health and social services, particularly in developing countries, and funds anti-poverty as well as disaster relief projects. The NGO representative is also a member of the NGO Subcommittee on Poverty Eradication; (b) **Commission on the Status of Women** at United Nations Headquarters, in February/March 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008, where written statements were submitted. The Federation staffs and finances numerous projects for the advancement of women in health, education and development; (c) **Commission for Sustainable Development** at United Nations Headquarters in April 2005 and May 2008. The Federation is a member of the Non-Governmental Organization Committee and initiated, staffed and financed projects for sustainable and environmental development; (d) **Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues** in New York in May 2005 and 2007; (e) **Financing for Development Committee**: The Federation has been active through collaboration in written and oral statements to the Committee and by attendance at the following events in New York: high-level dialogue in April 2005; second High-level Dialogue in June 2005; World Summit in September 2005; high-level meeting on 24 April 2006 and 16 April 2007; informal hearings of civil society on 22 October 2007; third High-level Dialogue on 23-25 October 2007; Review Sessions on Monterrey Consensus on 14-15 February 2008, 10-12 March 2008, 15-16 April 2008, 19-20 May 2008; special high-level

meeting with Bretton Woods institutions on 14 April 2008; informal consultation on draft outcome of Doha on 16 June 2008; informal consultations on draft outcome of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus in September 2008. The Federation chaired the task force that organized the Civil Society Forum held in New York on 15 April 2007; (f) **Economic and Social Council high-level segments**: Through collaboration with the NGO Committee on Social Development, the organization contributed in statements and discussions. A Federation representative attended high-level dialogues in New York: "Climate change" on 9 September 2007, "Religion and culture" on 4 October 2007 and "A world fit for children" on 12 December 2007; (g) **Commission on Human Rights**: A Federation representative attended the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, in March/April 2005.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The organization is affiliated with the Department of Public Information. The Federation was represented at the annual conference held at United Nations Headquarters in September 2005, 2006 and 2007, and at the conference in Paris, in September 2008. The NGO representative and associates attend the weekly Department of Public Information briefings and communications workshops. Through newsletters, monthly action alerts, workshops and other mailings, the NGO representative distributed materials regarding the United Nations, the Millennium Development Goals, financing for development, human rights and other relevant information about issues at the United Nations.

Activities in support of global principles: Since 2005 the organization has worked to alleviate poverty through financial support, initiating projects and/or providing personnel in the following geographic regions: Central America and the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, South America and inner city areas in major cities throughout the United States and Canada. **Activities include**: (a) Financial support and administrative oversight for water and sanitation projects in Peru, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, India and Nepal ($600,000); (b) Financial support and staffing for microfinancing programmes for women in Nigeria, Malawi, Haiti, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, and India ($65,000); (c) Providing scholarships to the Coady Institute in Antigonish, Canada (a centre for teaching development and microfinancing skills) for people from developing countries; (d) Investing $30,000 in Zambia for a widows/orphans AIDS skills empowerment centre to expand and initiate business skills training and communication services; (e) Participating in a new initiative on health and education in the Sudan ($300,000); (f) Initiating a social work training programme in Bihar, India which will allow the young to have professional skills and to be employed in the social action/work field as middle-level workers; (g) Providing transitional housing at several sites for those living in poverty in the United States; (h) Opening a peace centre in Guatemala to facilitate reconciliation, healing of memories, and learning peacemaking alternatives; (i) Initiating a computer-based literacy education programme for women and children in Guatemala that networks with 14 craft cooperatives and works in conjunction with a technology firm for technical support; (j) Providing funding for literacy education in Haiti ($15,000); (k) Investing $20,000 in TransFair, A United States certifier of fair trade goods worldwide; (l) Providing financial support for educational programmes in the United Republic of Tanzania and Ghana;

(m) Sponsoring personnel and finances for direct service projects with the homeless in Canada and the United States; (n) Providing university scholarships for single mothers in Canada; (o) Providing donations for disaster relief in Indonesia, Peru, Bangladesh, China, Myanmar and the United States ($5,000-$100,000); (p) Providing financial support for Iraqi women and an Iraqi refugees' trauma project ($3,500).

5. Society to Support Children Suffering from Cancer (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The Society to Support Children Suffering from Cancer (MAHAK) was set up as a non-profit, non-governmental organization in Tehran and registered under number 5657 in 1991. MAHAK has been active helping children with cancer and their families and supporting more than 13,000 cancer-stricken children including Iraqi and Afghan refugee children with cancer. The organization is involved in the fields of medical treatment, research, prevention, remedial and hospital services and welfare. The MAHAK charity organization is entirely dependent on public donations and fund-raising. MAHAK receives donations from the International Society for Children with Cancer, which is an affiliate of MAHAK. The International Society for Children with Cancer is a non-profit organization established in the United States and helps provide financial assistance for indigent children suffering from cancer and their families in developing countries. There is also an office of social work in the city of Shiraz which has become active in helping children with cancer in the province of Fars, Islamic Republic of Iran, since 2007. The total number of members of MAHAK at present stands at 35,418 in Iran and over 100 are residents in North America and Western European countries.

MAHAK has two major projects to meet its growing expenses: (a) The Child Sponsorship Program: donors can sponsor a child by paying an annual sum of $1,500 for each child's medical treatment and other expenses, which can be paid at the rate of $150 monthly; (b) At present, the daily running costs of the MAHAK hospital are at least $3,000 and donors can pledge and pay for one or more days of operation of the hospital in order to provide the children with treatment, good health, joy, play and education.

Significant changes in the organization: The organizational chart of MAHAK has radically changed. At present there are six departments: (a) Volunteer Department: volunteers' tasks and coordination are defined for the activities of each department and section; (b) Hospital: the Pediatric Cancer Hospital with related treatment facilities; (c) Administration and Financial Department: since transparency of the system is a priority, the Administration and Financial Department is equipped with the latest software systems for managing the organization's financial affairs; (d) Fundraising Department: to collect cash and non-cash donations; (e) Support Services Department: all covered children enjoy the organization's financial, social, psychological and welfare services with the support of this section; (f) Human Resources Department: reflecting the important role of human resources in MAHAK, this new department became operational in 2008 to recruit, train and support staff. All these sections are monitored by the Board of Trustees, the Hospital

Supervisor Council, the Board of Directors, the Manager Director, the Legal Inspector and Quality Control.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: MAHAK is directly involved in the Millennium Development Goals 4 (Reduce child mortality) and 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger) in accordance with organization's charter. The MAHAK International Relations Section is also active in the National Committee and the Millennium Development Goals meetings organized by the Department of Public Information in Tehran.

2005: 16 December: the rehabilitation centre was set up for children with cancer after bone marrow transplant, accompanied by their parents; 1,534 children were accommodated in this centre during the period 2006-2008.

2006: 29-31 October: holding of the First International Congress of Childhood Cancer, Tehran.

2007: (a) 15 June: opening of MAHAK Pediatric Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, Tehran; (b) 13 March: entering into a reciprocal contract with the Gustave Roussy Institute for research on registering cancer cases in Tehran and planning and studying geographically scattered children with cancer; (c) 15 June: inauguration of the MAHAK Pediatric Cancer Hospital and Research Centre in the north-east of Tehran. It is an 18,000 square metre fully equipped hospital complex and can accommodate up to 120 children. Other facilities are offered, such as a clinic, a chemotherapy laboratory, a genetics laboratory, a radiotherapy section, a physiotherapy ward, a hydrotherapy section, operation rooms, magnetic resonance imaging, radiology, an intensive care unit, a library, children's playrooms, a restaurant and an auditorium; (d) 29 November: gaining the non-governmental organization benchmarking certificate from the Société Général de Surveillance, the first non-governmental organization in the Middle East to do so. The award is only given to non-governmental organizations which meet the highest international standards in nine areas: board of trustees, strategies, honest management, communications, human resources, allocations and control of financial resources, executive operations, operational results and continuity of improvement.

2008: 17-18 May: workshop in Tehran, investigating the damage caused by late treatment of cancer based on a joint programme with the Gustave Roussy Institute, Paris; (b) 7-8 May: congress in Tehran, about clinical and biological research on leukaemia, in conjunction with professors from the University of Milan-Bicocca, Italy.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters: MAHAK participated in the following international meetings: (a) Annual Conference of the International Confederation for Childhood Cancer Parent Organizations, October 2008 in Berlin. The aim was to give Iranian parents' views on how to control the stress of a child with cancer; (b) Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) annual consultations with non-governmental organizations September 2007 in Geneva. The MAHAK representative attended and lobbied concerning the situation of refugee children with cancer in Iran; (c) Fifty-eighth annual Department of Public Information/ Non-Governmental Organization Conference, September 2005 in New York, "Voices

for Peace, Partnerships and Renewal": the MAHAK representative participated in the conference with the aim of holding discussions on matters of interest with similar non-governmental organizations; (d) Fifty-ninth annual Department of Public Information/NGO Conference, September 2006 in New York, "Effective partnership for human security and sustainable development": the MAHAK representative attended in order to exchange new ideas and information in a global context; (e) Sixtieth annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organization Conference, September 2007 in New York, "Climate change: how it impacts us all": the MAHAK representative attended the conference with a view to finding practical solutions on relevant matters; (f) Sixty-first annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organization Conference, 3-5 September 2008 in Paris, "Reaffirming human rights for all": the MAHAK representative attended to share knowledge and experience on how best to promote and contribute to the advancement of human rights around the world; (g) General Assembly of the International Union against Cancer, August 2008, Geneva, where the focus of the MAHAK representative was the latest achievements in cancer treatment in Iran.

MAHAK received a sum from UNHCR to help refugee children with cancer living outside refugee camps. At the end of each year, MAHAK delivered a comprehensive report to UNHCR and the basis of the funding for the following year was decided in an annual meeting. In late 2007, MAHAK signed a sub-agreement with UNHCR concerning financial aid for the treatment of Iraqi refugee children with cancer. During the period 2005-2008 the total number of Afghan and Iraqi refugee children under treatment was 579, while the treatment terminated children's statistics stood at 249 and 65 patients were deceased.

6. Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

The Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling (WCLAC) was established in Jerusalem in 1991 as a Palestinian independent non-governmental non-profit organization with the aim of contributing to the building of a democratic Palestinian society based on principles of equality and social justice between men and women. In order to achieve this aim, WCLAC develops programmes and projects conducive to crystallizing a clear Palestinian women's agenda whose terms of reference are derived from international human rights standards. The five units of WCLAC work together to implement and follow-up those programmes and projects.

Aims of the organization: The mission of the Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling is to address the causes and consequences of gender-based violence within the community as well as the gender-specific effects of the Israeli occupation. To this end, WCLAC acts not only to reverse historical negligence, the negative cultural legacy and the social outlook towards Palestinian women within the community, but also to address the needs of women in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. WCLAC provides counselling and awareness-raising programmes, offers legal and social support and training, proposes bills and law amendments, and participates in the organization of advocacy and pressure campaigns locally and internationally on behalf of Palestinian women and the community. WCLAC also develops the capacity of our professional staff and builds partnerships with

organizations and bodies involved in defending women's rights both locally and worldwide.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities:

Representative/s attended the following meetings held at United Nations Headquarters:

2005: (a) 31 January, report submitted to the pre-sessional working group of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women by WCLAC entitled: "NGO alternative report on Israel's implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in the Occupied Territories"; (b) 31 January; attended and orally presented issues concerning Palestinian women to, and answered questions from, the pre-sessional working group of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; (c) 5 July, made oral presentations on issues concerning Palestinian women during the Committee's review of Israel.

2007: (a) 31 October, presentation by the Director of WCLAC, as a member of the International Women's Commission, to a meeting organized by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), with the United Nations Secretary-General in New York on women and security; (b) 31 October, attended as representative of the International Women's Commission, a meeting organized by UNIFEM with the Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women.

Other countries: The International Women's Commission was established in July 2005, in cooperation with UNIFEM to work on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) in the Middle East. The Director of WCLAC is a founding member of the Commission and as a member of the steering committee attends three or four meetings every year.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

(a) Project in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to provide education and training to adolescents and young people about health rights, 2006-2008 (ongoing); (b) Project in cooperation with UNIFEM to empower and build the capacity of women's grassroots organizations in Jerusalem, 2007-2008 (ongoing); (c) Project in cooperation with UNIFEM to empower and build the capacity of women's grassroots organizations in the West Bank, 2007-2008 (ongoing); (d) Project in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), "*Iktidar*", to promote legal awareness and literacy through the development of a website providing women with access to information about their legal rights, 2007-2008 (ongoing); (e) Ongoing attendance by the Director of WCLAC at local monthly meetings of the International Women's Commission, established in 2005 and convened by UNIFEM; (f) the representative of WCLAC attended annual meeting for partners of UNFPA, 2006-2008; the representative gave a presentation on the implementation and progress of the WCLAC programme on adolescent health each year; (g) Cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) through participation in the

regular monthly meetings of the Protection Cluster Working Group for the Occupied Palestinian Territory; (h) Cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the Occupied Palestinian Territory through, among other things, attendance at the Displacement Working Group meetings chaired by the Office to ensure a gender dimension to discussions and advocacy activities.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: The organization contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Major actions undertaken were: **Goal 3. Gender Equality**: The second strategic objective of the organization is to promote positive attitudes towards women and gender issues and to change negative attitudes in society. Actions: (a) Major component of a training programme to educate and train new graduates on gender issues and gender-based violence; 200 new graduates trained between 2006 and 2008; (b) Training provided to five groups of volunteers (120 people) from civil society in five districts of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, on gender equality, gender-based violence and legal protection; (c) Capacity-building with two grass-roots women's organizations, providing training, workshops and supervision on awareness on gender issues. **Goal 5. Improve maternal health**. Actions: (a) Implemented programme about reproductive health in cooperation with five institutions, including the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the Palestinian Ministry of Health. Trained 76 health professionals in a two-stage programme to first train and then monitor and support their work, from 2005 to 2008; (b) Creation of manual on reproductive health; 1,000 copies of the manual were distributed to UNRWA, the Ministry of Health and other local health-care providers.

Activities in support of global principles: WCLAC organized and participated in events for International Women's Day on 8 March every year. It also organized events and campaigns every year in November as part of the global campaign to combat violence against women. Many of these activities were organized in conjunction with, or had the participation of, UNIFEM.

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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific (Special; 1993)

I. Introduction

Aims of the Organization: The Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific (ADFIAP) is the focal point of all development banks and other financial institutions engaged in the financing of sustainable development in the region. It was established on 1 October 1976 with 31 charter signatories under the auspices of the Asian Development Bank, which remains a Special Member of ADFIAP. ADFIAP is a founding member of the World Federation of Development Financing Institutions, which comprises similar associations in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. ADFIAP won the prestigious "Associations Make a Better World" Award of the American Society of Association Executives and The Center for Association Leadership in August 2008 for its corporate and environmental governance projects. ADFIAP organizes forums, seminars and consultative gatherings with international organizations that share the Association's vision, mission and advocacies, which include the Asian Development Bank, the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship, and the Australian Agency for International Development. ADFIAP is a non-profit, non-governmental organization registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the Philippines. The permanent secretariat of the Association is based in Manila, Philippines. ADFIAP's membership geographically covers the entire Asia-Pacific region. From an original 31 charter signatories in 1977, its roster grew to 107 member-institutions in 41 countries and territories as of July 2009.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Activities in support of global principles: Annual Conferences: Every year, members of ADFIAP gather to tackle issues relevant to their operations and their economies. From 2005 to 2008, ADFIAP members held four annual meetings and four CEO Forums in various locations with varying themes on sustainable development as follows: (a) 28th ADFIAP Meeting, 10-13 May 2005, Nadi, Fiji, theme: "Development Finance Institutes (DFIs): Investing into the Future"; (b) 29th ADFIAP Meeting, 8-11 May 2006, Colombo, Sri Lanka, theme: "DFIs: Are they Sustainable?/Opportunities in Sustainable Investments"; (c) 30th ADFIAP Meeting, 9-12 May 2007, Hanoi, Viet Nam, theme: "DFIs: Measuring up to International Standards and Best Practices"; (d) 31st ADFIAP Meeting, 28 April-1 May 2008, Tehran, Iran, theme: "Innovative Development Finance: DFIs' Response to the Needs of the Times". **CEO Forums**: (a) CEO International Forum II, 12-13 September 2005, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, theme: "Revving SMEs Up as the Engine of Growth"; (b) CEO International Forum III, 27-28 November 2006, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, theme: "SME Banking: Structures, Dynamics, and Challenges"; (c) CEO International Forum IV, 18-19 December 2007, Bangkok, Thailand, theme: "Development Banks and Sustainable SMEs: Opportunities for Growth"; (d) CEO International Forum V, 25-26 November 2008, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, theme: "The Role of DFIs Under Today's Challenging Economic Environment: Enhancing Efficiency and Productivity". **Projects and Training Programs**: (a) Sustainable Finance for DFIs Project: The "Sustainable Finance for DFIs" Project funded by Capacity Building International Germany was a series of

workshops for lending officers of member-banks. ADFIAP, with support from Capacity Building International Germany and in cooperation with the Development Bank of the Philippines, conducted a regional seminar entitled "Seminar-Workshop on Strategies for Financing Lasting Development", in Manila, Philippines. Six countries were selected to be the first group for this "country team" event. These were China, India, Malaysia, Thailand, Fiji and the Philippines. Participants were senior officers of ADFIAP member-institutions responsible for formulating development strategies for them. These officers eventually became the focal persons for the planned above-mentioned national workshops. ADFIAP organized two programmes in 2005, the first one in Bangkok, hosted by Thai Military Bank, from 13 to 15 July and the second one in Bandung, Indonesia, hosted by Bank Jabar and Indonesian Development Banking Institute, from 24 and 25 August. **SME Finance Initiative Project**: The Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Finance Initiative (SME/FI) is the knowledge and business network that puts together development banks and other specialized financial institutions to dialogue and address specific issues of financing SMEs. The following SME/Microfinance Study Tour Programs have been organized under the SME Finance Initiative: (a) Asia-Pacific Seminar on SME Finance in Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka, Japan, 19 May to 12 June 2005; (b) SME Finance Forum for Cambodia, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 30 May to 3 June 2005; (c) SME Forum in Bangkok, Thailand, 1-3 March 2006; (d) Study Tour Program on SME Financing, Manila, Philippines, 24-26 April 2006; (e) Study Tour Program on SME Finance and Cultural Program, in Manila, Philippines, 3-6 September 2006; (f) Study Tour Program on Microfinance, in Manila, Philippines, 18-22 September 2006; (g) Study Tour Program on SME and Development Finance, Tokyo, Japan, 8-10 November 2006; (h) Study tour Program on SME Finance, Bangkok/Pattaya, Thailand, 13-15 December 2006; (i) Study Tour Program on Microfinancing, in Manila, Philippines, 26-30 March 2007; (j) Study Tour Program on SME Finance, in Kuala Lumpur/Malaca, Malaysia, 6-8 June 2007; (k) Study Tour for various ADFIAP member banks, Program on Microfinance, in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap, Cambodia, 19-21 November 2007; (l) Study Tour Program on Microfinancing, in Manila, Philippines, 21-25 July 2008; and, (m) Study Tour Program on SME Financing and Lending, in Manila, Philippines, 3-5 November 2008. **DFIs for Corporate Governance Project**: The "DFIs for Corporate Governance" Project is ADFIAP's collective undertaking and commits to advocate, facilitate, and implement good corporate governance policies and practices in its member-institutions. The grant was provided by the Center for International Private Enterprise based in Washington, D.C., United States of America. From 2005 to 2008, ADFIAP scheduled the following training programmes: (a) Phase II: Enhancing Corporate Governance for DFIs; (b) National Workshop: Seminar/Workshop on Enhancing Corporate Governance for Financial Institutions in the Pacific, held 9-10 May 2005 in Suva, Fiji; (c) National Workshop: Seminar on Enhancing Corporate Governance for Banks and Financial Institutions in Viet Nam, held 6-7 June 2005 in Hanoi, Viet Nam; (d) Phase III: The Compliance Officership Program (COP): Institutionalizing Corporate Governance and Anti-Corruption Practices in Development Banks of Asia and the Pacific, National Workshop in Hyderabad, India, 2-4 February 2006; Seminar Workshop in Koror, Palau Islands, in the Pacific on 19 May 2006; National Workshop in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 3-4 July 2006; National Workshop in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia on 25-26 July 2006; (e) Phase IV: Corporate Governance for Sustainability of DFIs, Regional seminar-workshop in Manila from 12-16 February 2007; National workshop in

Viet Nam, 7-9 May 2007; National workshop in Mumbai, India, 7-8 June 2007; National workshop in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 12-13 June 2007; (f) Phase V: Improving Risk Management and Financial Disclosure Systems Under a Good Corporate Governance Framework, Regional seminar-workshop in Manila from 21-25 January 2008; National workshop in Papua New Guinea, 28 August 2007; National workshop in India, 10-11 April 2008; National workshop in Viet Nam, 8-9 May 2008; National workshop in Malaysia, 10-11 June 2008. **The "Greening of DFIs" Project**: Is ADFIAP's collective and responsive effort to pursue sustainable development through its adherence to the principles of a safe and clean environment, not only as part of good corporate citizenship, but more importantly, as an integral part of sound management practice. The twin objectives of the project are to institutionalize in each DFI (a) a set of environmental policies and practices approved by its Board of Directors and incorporated to its overall business philosophy; and (b) an officer or unit designated to be the environment "focal point" in each DFI to look after environmental issues and concerns in its day-to-day operation. **Credentialing Programs**: Core Development Banking Program, 26-30 November 2007 and 24-28 November 2008, Manila, Philippines, and Development Bank Management Program, 10-14 December 2007 and 1-12 December 2008, Manila, Philippines.

2. Child Foundation (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Established in 1994, Child Foundation is an international non-profit organization with the simple objective of helping children to study.

Aims of the organization: Child Foundation attempts to support needy, talented children and their families multilaterally, in order to support their urgent needs. It also tries to have these children believe in themselves to be able to make a delightful future. In this regard, Child Foundation not only was thoroughly successful in achieving its humanitarian purposes, but it also attempts to maintain international cooperation with the NGOs with the same purposes in order to strengthen them to achieve their goals. Child Foundation started to take needy children under its sponsorship, believing in the motto "No gifted and talented child's education should be hindered as a consequence of financial hardships". It has been sponsoring more than 3,900 needy talented children and their families since it was established. Almost 70 per cent of these children are female. This figure shows Child Foundation's specific attention to girls and women, as they are more vulnerable than men.

The fund resources of Child Foundation have increased about 40 per cent during this period by attracting more sponsors, fund raising and occasional ceremonies. While its broad aims and objectives, as well as the nature of its activities have remained the same, Child Foundation has expanded the areas of its activities to other countries like Afghanistan and Iraq and has established other branches in Afghanistan, Dubai and Germany. It also has expanded the areas of support inside the country by establishing new branches in provinces of Amol, Zabol, Kashan, Mashad, Tabriz and Isfahan.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Child Foundation's representative participated in: (a) "Primary Drug and HIV/AIDS Prevention in Street Children", 13-14 July 2008, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran. Child Foundation participated in a two-day training workshop that was held for NGOs jointly organized by the Drug Control Headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime facilitated by the Iranian Life Promotion Association.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: Child Foundation did not participate in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, in major conferences or other United Nations meetings during the reporting period because primarily it focused its activities on the development and implementation of education programs for needy talented children and their families so that they may enjoy normal standards of living and education, as well as expanding its areas of activities in the Islamic Republic of Iran and other countries, and secondly, because scarce funds and few representative staff make attendance at international meetings very difficult.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: Child Foundation contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in the Islamic Republic of Iran: **Goal 1: Education sponsorship of needy talented children from primary school to college**. Actions: (a) primary school education for 652 children; (b) guidance school education for 820 children; (c) high school education for 1,028 children; (d) college education for 73 students. **Goal 2: Sponsored children cultural and social training**. Actions: (a) 21 short recreational camps; (b) 2 seminars; (c) 4 workshops; (d) 18 occasional ceremonies. **Goal 3: Development of workshops for women**. 2 didactic seminars. **Goal 4: Fighting Cancer**. Actions: (a) provided medicines for children with cancer; (b) provided assisted living facility in Urmia for children with cancer and their families during the medication period; (c) free medication and hospitalization of the cancerous children in Omid Hospital in Urmia. **Goal 5: Supporting children suffering from other illness and defectives**. Actions: (a) special programmes for blind and hearing-impaired children to have a proper education, training and technology; (b) 13 plastic surgeries on children burned in the Bam earthquake; (c) 2 kidney transplantations; (d) 1 schistomelus surgery. **Goal 6: Eradication of hunger**. Actions: (a) sponsorship of deprived families by monthly allowance; (b) annual food distribution among families; (c) family food packages sent to remote areas, i.e., food packages containing non-perishable items such as: rice, grains, cooking oil, tea, sugar and meat, distributed to 3,000 families in 10 provinces; (d) provision and distribution of home appliances among needy families; (e) living and educational support to Afghani children refugees in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

3. China Arms Control and Disarmament Association (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Significant changes in the organization: On 26 December 2006, China Arms Control and Disarmament Association (CACDA) convened its annual General Assembly in Beijing. Constitutional changes were undertaken in the aim and purpose set out in the constitution. In the original constitution, the Association is to

be involved only in activities of arms control and disarmament. Because of the drastic changes in the international security situation, particularly the rise of untraditional threats, non-proliferation has been added to the Association's area of activities. Although non-proliferation is similar in nature to arms control and disarmament, it has its own special sphere of activities. This addition is significant for future activities of the Association to cope with the domestic and international security situation in the future. Other constitutional changes were the establishment of the Association Honorary Presidency and extension of Council membership to ensure its stability and sustainability.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Since April 2004, when the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 1540 (2004), which called on all Member States to further strengthen non-proliferation and export control in order to prevent the acquisition or/and use of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery by non-State actors, the Association devoted itself to promoting non-proliferation export control to Chinese industries, research institutions, students and public audience. The Association established an export control programme and a strong working team for this important work, with the Secretary General of the Association as the team leader. In the past five years, it focused its non-proliferation export control efforts mainly on two fields: researching and producing reports and organizing export control seminars for relevant government officials and industry representatives. The Association selects three to four topics annually to research in depth and produce reports, which are sent to government authorities and research institutions; the published versions of some reports also appear in newspapers and research journals. Topics include Chinese non-proliferation export control efforts and development trends, international non-proliferation efforts, international export control regimes study, the United States, the European Union and other countries export control practices, etc.

CACDA organized four to six export control workshops annually for relevant Chinese government officials (Ministry of Commerce, State Commission of Science and Technology, General Customs, etc.), industry and commerce, and trade entrepreneurs. The workshops invited government officials and experts to give lectures on Chinese non-proliferation and export control laws, regulations, procedures and practices. The Association worked closely with the Center for International Trade and Security of the University of Georgia in the United States, to promote international non-proliferation practices, inviting foreign experts to give lectures at export control seminars. Non-proliferation export control awareness and knowledge among relevant Chinese government offices and industries was greatly promoted as a result of the Association's work, and self-discipline offices have been established in industries and trade corporations.

Cooperation with the United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in field

CACDA delegations attended international conferences to give lectures on China's non-proliferation efforts and practices, and learn from other countries their best practices. The Association's non-governmental role in non-proliferation export control work contributed a lot to international efforts to prevent proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems.

It sent delegations/members to participate in other countries in international workshops, seminars and conferences on security, arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, and held similar seminars or conferences in China: **2005**: (a) CACDA and the Armed Forces and the Society Committee of the International Political Science Association jointly sponsored an international seminar in Shanghai, with 126 participants, on the relations between the armed forces and society, which greatly promoted multi-understanding among the academic circles, the military and the people of various countries; (b) in May a seminar on the theme "Dynamics of interaction: relations among the United States of America, Russia and China" in Athens, Greece; (c) 7-8 November, the Endowment Foundation's annual meeting on non-proliferation in Washington D.C.; (d) September, seminar on preventing hostile use of the life sciences in Malaysia; (e) December, Wilton Park Seminar on non-proliferation: Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference and its future.

2006: (a) In January in New Delhi, India: Seminar on Deepening Engagement: Changing relations among the United States, Russia and China; (b) January, Istanbul, Turkey: Seminar "Rising China and Turkey"; (c) 3-11 March, China's News Media Delegation representative visit to Pakistan to promote mutual understanding in Pakistan; (d) April, International Conference on non-proliferation and disarmament in Moscow, Russia; (e) May-June, Senior Managers' Course for Removing Landmines, held at James Madison University, Virginia, United States, sponsored by United Nations Mine Action Center for exchange of views and experiences; (f) May, Cairo, Egypt: Seminar "Deepening Engagement: Changing relations among the US, Russia and China"; (g) August, Islamabad, Pakistan: Seminar on Ballistic Missiles and South Asia Security.

2007: (a) In November, Jenju, South Korea: Seventh conference on nuclear energy, sponsored by the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat; (b) December 2007 and June 2008, Asia Forum cosponsored by China Security Committee of Asia Pacific and East-West Research Institute in Jakarta, Indonesia and Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, on the Guidelines of Non-proliferation and Nuclear-Free-Zone in Southeast Asia.

2008: (a) July, Conference on Global Leadership Consortium in London; (b) September, Seminar on Global Assessment; (c) December, Seoul, Republic of Korea: Republic of Korea conference on East Asia security and the Korean Peninsula issue. Nuclear disarmament for a world without nuclear weapons, the fundamental interests of the human race initiated by four United States statesmen and politicians. CACDA took an active part; it sent scholars to the Oslo seminar in December 2008, the Deputy Secretary General of CACDA to the Global-Zero Initiative in Paris, to the Nuclear Disarmament Seminar in India, and to the United Nations issue seminar on the theme "Realizing Nuclear Disarmament", sponsored by the Stanley Foundation in New York; (d) the Conference of United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network (UN-NGO-IRENE) Asia Pacific (April) on the theme "Sustainable Development and Green Olympics" in Beijing, China; (e) September, a seminar on conventional weapons and their export control at the Seventh Asia-Europe People's Forum before the Beijing Summit, which gave impetus to non-proliferation efforts and to promote peace.

4. Foundation for International Training (Special; 1997)

I. Introduction

The Foundation for International Training (FIT) was established in Canada in 1976 as a non-profit development services organization with a mission to further social and economic progress in developing countries by strengthening human capacities. Its programs are designed to foster and increase the capabilities of local institutions — voluntary, private or public — to strengthen human resources for development. This mission is rooted in the belief that people — their institutions, skills and capabilities — are the most critical resources for development. Since its inception, the Foundation has engaged in more than 600 projects in over 50 countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East; these projects were financed by the Canadian International Development Agency, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, United Nations agencies and the governments of developing countries. This report focuses on activities carried out during the period 2005-2008 in cooperation with United Nations agencies and in support of its goals and objectives.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: FIT did not participate in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, in major conferences or other United Nations meetings between 2005 and 2008. While the Foundation is interested in participating more directly with the United Nations, we were unable to attend meetings that we were invited to due to scheduling constraints and our limited financial resources to cover costs associated with travelling to events that are outside of Canada and not directly related to project activities. We kept updated with reports and other documents that resulted from these meetings.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies or agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters: (a) **Child Rights Project**: Child Rights Project in Sri Lanka is a member of the Coordinating Committee on training, which is led by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). This committee allowed stakeholders to network and share information and resources. As part of this community, it used FIT's capacity building strength to develop material used for training of trainers in Sri Lanka's North and East provinces. In addition, as a member of a Core Group of five international NGOs advocating for child rights, the Project organized a civil society network comprised of over 20 Sri Lankan NGOs. The Government of Sri Lanka submitted its combined third and fourth periodic reports under article 44 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child to the United Nations Committee in Geneva in October 2008 and then shared this report with the NGO community. Following the presentation, the civil society network prepared the Alternate Report for the United Nations Committee. FIT and its partners contributed a section that defined "the child" and provided expertise in facilitating and analysing consultations with 250 child leaders; (b) **Gender Equality and African Regional Institutions**: This project worked with four African regional institutions, including the African Trade and Policy Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Centre is a project of the Economic Commission for Africa, with support from the Canadian government through the Canada Fund for Africa. The Gender Equality and African

Regional Institutions project, through the Foundation for International Training, assisted the African Trade and Policy Centre to enhance gender equality internally and African women's participation in the international trading system. In the 2007 Inception Mission, the Gender Equality and African Regional Institutions team presented its project to the African Trade and Policy Centre senior management, set up a small Gender Working Group and gathered information that informed a participatory gender audit of the Centre. During the second mission, from 16 to 18 October 2008, a Gender Equality Action Plan was created with the Gender Working Group based on the audit findings and training needs were determined.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: As the Millennium Development Goals encompass the most vital development priorities, they overlapped with many existing projects of FIT. Through our work in many sectors and geographic areas, the Foundation was involved with projects directly supporting the aims of all eight Millennium Development Goals. Further, local participation, gender equality, capacity-building and sustainability are cross-cutting themes in all Foundation programs, reinforcing these priorities at all levels. Major actions undertaken were: **Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education**: The Child's Rights Project's main objective of promoting and protecting the rights of children, particularly children in especially difficult circumstances, supported UNICEF's child protection mandate; as many children in Sri Lanka have been affected by conflict, forced into labour, or denied their primary caregiver following a parent's migration to seek employment, protection issues abound. The Child's Rights Project built the capacity of many partners working on a number of child rights issues, including increasing their access to primary education. The Project provided services to 38,986 children in especially difficult circumstances (19,776 females and 19,210 males), including those who dropped out of school, worked, had migrant parents and were affected by conflict and disaster. Support included reintegrating these children into school, providing them with school materials and food, offered extra classes for slow learners, and provided parents with programs on the importance of education. The Project provided training and technical assistance to NGOs and government partners in applying the rights-based approach to development, resulting in communities and development officials working together to resolve systematic issues that created barriers to access to education among boys and girls from marginalized groups.

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women: The Child's Rights Project assisted 60 Sri Lankan organizations to recognize and reduce barriers to girls' access to primary and secondary education, gave technical assistance and provided training that resulted in a significant increase in access to resources and participation among female children; (b) Ethiopian Civil Service College Project: The goal of the College was to create a civil service in Ethiopia with the highest ethical standards; it improved the capacity of the College trainers in providing gender-sensitive, values and outcome-based ethics training to the civil service. The Project improved the design and delivery of gender-responsive public services and regulations at all levels of government and increased the reliability, the accountability and the transparency of the civil service. Due to the low status of women across Ethiopian society, the Project emphasized the importance of raising gender equality issues with stakeholders in all activities. This included hiring an Ethiopian Civil Service College gender expert and women for the Project's Training Coordinating Committee and ensuring that case studies and curriculum addressed

gender issues relevant to Ethiopian society and the College community in training materials and workshops. The Project ensured that the College's first ethics manual for teachers had a section dedicated to gender and harassment to raise awareness of issues of gender and ethics and facilitate a more enabling environment for gender equality within the College; (e) the Gender Equality and African Regional Institutions Project increased gender equality within and in the work of four African regional institutions: the African Trade and Policy Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; the Forum for Agricultural Research in Accra, Ghana; the Nile Basin Initiative Secretariat in Entebbe, Uganda; and L'Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel in Tunis, Tunisia. Through FIT, Senior Canadian Gender Specialists worked with African Gender Specialists and these institutions to form Gender Working Groups at each institution and trained them on gender assessment and mainstreaming. The Gender Specialists supported the institutions to develop and hold participatory gender audits which led to stakeholders' identification of priority areas and recommendation for action to mainstream and integrate gender into their programs, policies and internal operations. They also created Gender Equality Action Plans that include results and indicators that assisted them to realize more gender-sensitive programs; (d) Participatory Development Program: the Program worked with civil society organizations in Egypt to strengthen their capacities in the areas of child protection, gender equality and participation. The Program supported 75 civil society organizations to increase gender equality in education, access to income generation opportunities and government services such as for identity documents, and their ability to participate in community and civic life.

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability: (a) Participatory Development Project built the capacity of various Egyptian civil society organizations, including 12 that are working to ensure key environmental issues in the country. Among these organizations are Wadi Environmental Science Centre, the Egyptian Association for Protection from Fuel Exhaustion, and the Arab Centre for Youth and the Environment. These civil society organizations received support to improve managerial and organizational capacities, introduce effective development programming tools and promote the use of rights-based approaches — all in order to enhance their ability to increase citizen participation in civil and governmental fora as a means of protecting the environment; (b) Small and Medium Enterprises Applied Management and Environmental Project (SMEEP) focused on small and medium-sized enterprises in Jiangsu province in the chemical, textiles, food processing, brewery, metal processing, and circular industry (waste trade) sectors, to assist them to reduce their pollution to acceptable national levels while making the plants more efficient and profitable, through changes in the enterprise's processes and procedures. To disseminate results and promote a broader environmental awareness among SMEs in Jiangsu, special training was offered through regional training centres to a wide range of individuals ranging from provincial and local officials, to plant managers and technicians. SMEEP's results included SMEs complying with new environmental regulations and improving their management skills. By March 2007, the Project not only achieved the expected results, but also exceeded expectations. SMEs in Jiangsu gained knowledge and skills to manage their businesses and solve environmental problems. Targeted SME plants and more than half of the other similar enterprises in the province improved their compliance with the environmental regulations because of the promotion and enhancement of the sustainable solutions available through SMEEP. Using an integrated approach to enterprise and environmental management, the Project played an important role in

contributing to the sustainable growth of SMEs in target sectors as designed. The project inputs served to reduce environmental pollution while making positive impacts on health, particularly the health of the poorest and most vulnerable people who depend on surface water and groundwater as sources for drinking and irrigation of food crops.

5. Green Cross International (General; 1997)

I. Introduction

Green Cross International (GCI) is a non-governmental organization whose goal is to help catalyse, in a non-confrontational manner, a just, sustainable and secure future for all. As the first non-governmental organization to focus simultaneously on security, poverty and the environment, its activities are in line with the economic and social objectives of the United Nations. In particular, they help advance the Millennium Development Goals, especially in terms of access to water and sanitation, education, medical care and poverty reduction. In the past four years, 2005-2008, GCI has expanded its network and consolidated many of its programs. New additions to its network were: Green Cross Sri Lanka in August 2005, Green Cross Canada in March 2006, Green Cross Australia in June 2007 and Green Cross Uzbekistan in September 2008. In 2007, Mikhail Gorbachev stepped down from his position as GCI Chairman, which he had occupied for 13 years, keeping the position of Founding President and Board member. The new chairman is Dr. Jan Kulczyk of Poland. GCI seeks to influence thinking and action at all levels. For instance, on its initiative the ninth summit of the Nobel Peace Price laureates in Paris (11-13 December 2008) focused on the theme "Human rights and a world without violence", and held a panel session on the theme "Water as a human right", organized by GCI with the participation of, among others, the Director General of UNESCO and Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. A statement on climate change entitled "Time to Lead", proposed by GCI, was also issued by the Paris Summit of Nobel Prize laureates to the United Nations Conference on Climate Change at Poznan, Poland.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Cooperation with the United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in field and/or at Headquarters:

Water: The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) recognized the work of GCI on water in 2006 with the presentation of the prestigious UNEP "Champion of the Earth" Award to GCI Chairman Mikhail Gorbachev. Earlier in 2006, GCI approached 60 Heads of States and Governments to solicit their support for the United Nations Convention on international watercourses. A number of GCI water projects promote universal water rights. The "Right to Water Campaign", launched in 2004, expanded its aims in 2005 with the opening of its website (www.watertreaty.org), which encourages visitors to sign a petition that endorses international legal action on the Fundamental Principles for a Global Convention on the Right to Water. The Water for Peace Programme aims to promote cooperation and conflict resolution throughout the world's trans-boundary river basins. It works with governments, local authorities and civil society to remove the obstacles to

integrated and cooperative water management and resolve related conflicts. Focus is on six important international basins across the world: La Plata, Jordan, Volga, Okavango, Volta and Danube. Projects for "Water for Peace" include: (a) Summer 2006: Green Cross coordinated a project with Friends of the Earth-Middle East and the Palestinian House of Water and Environment to promote education among Israelis and Palestinians on the ground water availability and preservation; (b) February 2007: Green Cross with the Palestinian Hydrology Group, and supported by the Palestinian Water Authority, implemented a training programme for members of the Coastal Water Municipalities Union; (c) 2007, San Antonio de Lomerio, Bolivia: Green Cross Japan helped to finance 37 indigenous families education on water purification, personal hygiene and basic sanitation as well as access to clean water for 2,000 additional people through the installation and funding of 13 ecological latrines, 14 rainwater tanks, and 18 people trained in rainwater tank and latrine construction; (d) Middle East Water Assessment; (e) United Nations Watercourses Convention Campaign; (f) Peace Park project in Jordan and Israel in 2007.

Energy: A number of clean energy-related activities have been promoted by the Green Cross network. Based on its research in previous years, GCI published in 2008 the Global Solar Report Card, an education and advocacy tool to promote sound policies for sustained solar markets development. The Report Card is the first of its kind annual country-by-country review and evaluation of progress towards solar energy use. The study presents maps, data and policy analysis for each country and ranks countries based on a transparent 100-point system. The aim is to raise awareness about how governments can better foster private sector involvement in developing clean energy infrastructures. The Global Solar Fund, a concept developed by the United States affiliate Global Green, seeks to generate $50 billion to fund research and projects to make solar energy more cost effective. The United States chapter also sponsored affordable green rebuilding in New Orleans through the Holy Cross Project, and supported the city passage of a resolution requiring Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design silver building standards.

At the United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Poznan, Poland (1-12 December 2008), as an observer organization of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at the 14th Conference of Parties, GCI hosted a side event titled "Promoting the involvement of the business community to address climate change" on 2 December 2008. The discussion was opened by GCI Chairman Jan Kulczyk and included guest speakers from the world of business, politics and civil society. At the side event, Global Green USA launched the Global Solar Report Card and GC Australia presented the environmental refugee situation caused by climate change in the Asia-Pacific region. At another event organized with the support of GCI Chairman Jan Kulczyk, Al Gore received an honorary doctorate from Poznan University.

The Social Medical Care Programme, active in Belarus, the Ukraine, and the Russian Federation, aims to help the populations affected by Chernobyl resume normal lives, focusing particularly on children, young adults and families. During 2005-2008, a total of 195,702 people benefited from activities such as children's therapy and health education camps, family centres and clubs for mothers, training of trainers and health information. Similarly, 3,539 people, mainly children and young adults, suffering from Agent Orange in Viet Nam during the four years.

Legacy of the Cold War Program: During 2005-2008, GCI helped facilitate: the safe destruction of over 10,000 tons of deadly chemical weapons in the United States and Russia; the construction and opening of three new chemical weapons demilitarization facilities in Russia, thus helping meet binding destruction deadlines under the international Chemical Weapons Convention. Over a dozen public forums and dialogues were organized and managed in Washington D.C. and Moscow and Saint Petersburg, Russia, on environmental, security, and public health challenges in weapons demilitarization, clean-up, remediation, and non-proliferation. Over $1 billion were raised in additional United States funding for non-proliferation, threat reduction, and weapons clean-up programs. GCI also promoted full international implementation and membership ("universality") in the Chemical Weapons Convention, thereby helping 18 countries join the Chemical Weapons Convention over the 2005-2008 period; 188 countries are now Chemical Weapons Convention States Parties.

United Nations-related conferences: Following are some conferences in which GCI participated: (a) eleventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention: December 2006, The Hague, Netherlands: GCI was selected as an NGO observer for the seventh consecutive year; (b) seventh Advisory Group on Environmental Emergencies meeting, June 2007, Rosenberg, Sweden: GCI developed a campaign with UNEP and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat of the United Nations to recognize the international effort to respond to environmental emergencies; (c) Advisory Group on Environmental Emergencies Meeting, December 2007, Tunisia, a follow-up meeting; (d) United Nations Environment Programme Post-Conflict Branch teleconferences, 2006: Global Green USA participated in weekly conference calls concerning the conflict in Lebanon and the environmental consequences; (e) G-8 Summit, 2006, St. Petersburg, Russia: Global Green USA presented a position paper of the Green Cross on energy security; (f) United Nations Convention on Transboundary Waters, October 2007, New York. GCI continued its efforts to get this Convention ratified; (g) International Workshop: "Water Needs in the Middle East", May 2008, Geneva, Switzerland: Hosted by GCI and the Peres Center for Peace, this workshop brought together experts to discuss Middle East water issues; (h) GCI-UNEP collaboration on World Environment Day-2008 focused on the necessity of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Work on the "Green Star Award", to increase awareness about and response to environmental emergencies was launched in November 2008. It is a tripartite collaboration between UNEP, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and GCI.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: **Goal 7**: Ensure environmental sustainability. The promotion of environmental education is also very important to GCI. International conferences on environmental education are held annually, traditionally organized by Green Cross Russia. "Earth Dialogues", involving the three major social sectors — civil society, business and government — to commit and participate, were held in Brisbane in 2006 and in Brazil (Minas Gerais) in 2008. These Earth Dialogues involve useful exchanges among thousands of participants working towards national sustainable goals. Cooperation agreements with Earth Charter representatives were signed in Australia and several Green Cross national offices promote the Earth Charter in schools. The use of Environmental diaries in schools, started by Green Cross Japan, is getting more popular. In Japan during 2005-2008, about 100,000 diaries were distributed each year to kids. In

Sri Lanka, from 100 kids in 2005, there are now 5,000 kids in 50 schools using them.

6. Humanitarian Foundation of Canada (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Humanitarian Foundation of Canada is a non-profit Canadian organization whose goal is to alleviate poverty, chronic unemployment, disease, hunger, homelessness and their causes, in Canada and other countries.

Activities: Humanitarian Foundation of Canada has provided funds to the ongoing education projects in rural mountain areas in China. This project was partnered with the Canadian International Development Agency. It has the following activities: (a) building schools in four mountain villages, which allow boys and girls to receive a full course of primary education; (b) intensive trainings were held for elementary schoolteachers to enhance their teaching methodologies and improve their teaching standards; (c) farming and husbandry techniques training provided to village farmers to reduce poverty; (d) provide training to village leaders in the areas of farming, agriculture directions, social work, law, economy, business and marketing; (e) a special training held for women in women rights, women's health and legal knowledge of protection of women. The funds we provided allowed boys and girls to complete a full course of primary education.

Humanitarian Foundation of Canada provided funds for the projects established by World Job and Food Bank in Jakarta, Indonesia, which is designed to provide stable and fair employment to poor women and single mothers. The project involved providing skills training to mothers, single mothers and young girls, teaching them sewing and providing them with information about self-sustaining businesses. After training, 13 women came together to form Themis Clothing Cooperative, an organization that is funded through Humanitarian Foundation of Canada Inc. This program has created gender equality and empowerment of women.

In 2005, Humanitarian Foundation of Canada, in partnership with Ontario Sri Lanka Foundation, started the Sri Lanka Tsunami Relief and Rehabilitation Project. Fourteen tons of medical supplies, food and water purification materials were sent to the Sri Lankan Department of Health, the Rotary Club of Colombo and the Archdiocese of Colombo.

Humanitarian Foundation of Canada sponsored and supported the sanitation projects initiated by the World Job and Food Bank in the slum areas of Jakarta, Indonesia. As a preventative health care, hygiene measure and clean environment for the whole community, World Job and Food Bank had built four community public sanitation facilities in these poor communities since 2000. These sanitation facilities provide clean water for drinking, cooking, and cleaning. The new sanitation facilities included clean water tanks, showers, washrooms, and clean areas, and local people stopped using the local river for drinking, bathing, washing clothes, dishwashing, littering and using toilets/latrines. These facilities benefit more than 500 families, including more than 3,000 people. We have seen that the water-borne diseases have been greatly reduced in the areas. The project provided not only clean water for the community, but also increased awareness of environmental issues. All the families

from these communities now use clean water for drinking, bathing and washing. Littering at the river has decreased significantly, because there is awareness of how to maintain a clean environment. The funds provided help keep all the sanitation facilities operating well.

In May 2008, Humanitarian Foundation of Canada started earthquake disaster relief work for Sichuan, China, by collecting 500 tents and sending them to the affected areas in Sichuan. Sichuan Charity Federation, Government of the Sichuan Province of China, and the Southwest Petroleum University joined us as partners to support our relief work.

Production of School Notebooks, Lunuwila, Puttlam, Sri Lanka, started in 1987. This ongoing project has provided on-the-job training of school notebook manufacturing. It has sponsored the project since its inception by providing computer software and skills training. Now the project has been expanded to include computer printing, including offset and letter press printing, screen printing, graphic design, type setting, polythene printing and cutting. The project has provided job opportunities for school dropouts and the poor people.

Humanitarian Foundation of Canada conducted the feasibility for HIV/AIDS status in Nanchong, Sichuan, China, and prepared the proposal for an HIV/AIDS prevention and education project in that area. The project proposes to work together with the local government health authority and the local epidemic prevention station. The project will have three components: (1) an education plan for 1 million young people and teenagers, who in turn will educate their families; (2) an education plan for drug addicts — providing education and prevention from infecting others and free examination; (3) education and planning for AIDS patients — provide education and help patients face the reality; the local epidemic prevention station contacts patients individually and gives them medicines and subsidies for living.

In summer of 2005, Humanitarian Foundation of Canada initiated a computer application skills training program for the disadvantaged. Humanitarian Foundation of Canada recognized a community need for computer training courses. Many unemployed and underemployed individuals were limited in their access to the job market because they lacked the necessary computer skills. This program provided free computer training at our offices to the disadvantaged, such as handicapped individuals, new immigrants, single mothers, and mature individuals who had been out of the workforce for some years. Some of the students have found jobs in areas where they use their computer knowledge. Several others have become interested and dedicated enough in learning about computers to qualify to receive their own free computers from organizations such as the Calgary Drop-In Centre. These positive and tangible results indicated the success of the program and its ability to truly help participants.

II. Contributions to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: In the past few years, as a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organization in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO), Humanitarian Foundation of Canada attended several conferences hosted by CONGO.

Cooperation with the United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at the headquarters: (a) In 2005 sponsored and supported the United Nations Youth Event with the sum of $25,000 for celebrating the voices of youth in the "Sounds of the Millennium" concert. This concert was to increase awareness of the work undertaken by the United Nations and in mobilizing young people to contribute towards the Millennium Developmental Goals through music; (b) in 2007, on the advice of the Economic and Social Council, Humanitarian Foundation of Canada sponsored and supported a sum of $5,000 for Adharshila's Project in New Delhi Slums, India. Adharshila is a non-profit organization in India and is currently an applicant for special consultative status with ECOSOC. Humanitarian Foundation of Canada sponsored its Book Bank Project for the slum children. This project encouraged the children's reading habits, gained extra knowledge, raised their level of awareness, eliminated their bad habits and inculcated good habits.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: Humanitarian Foundation of Canada Inc. contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in the following geographical regions: Asia, South America, and Canada. **Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger**: Target 2: Halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger: Actions: trained 750 farmers to increase production rate; trained 250 animal husbandry farmers and women. **Goal 3: Reduce chronic unemployment and underemployment**: Target 1: Provide special skill and trade training: Actions: sewing training for 26 women; 440 computerized printing skills training projects in Sri Lanka; computer skills training for 10 disadvantaged individuals. **Goal 4: Achieve universal primary education**: Target 1: Build schools and ensure that boys and girls complete a full course of primary education: Actions: built four schools in rural mountainous areas; enabled 1,200 boys and girls to go to schools to receive primary education; provided training for teachers to improve quality of primary education = 562; built four school libraries benefiting 1,200 individuals, provided funds for 30 poor girls and boys for school materials. Target 2: Ensure reach-out to communities where such schooling is totally neglected: Villagers and communities were able to have access to 16 schools. **Goal 5: Achieve food self-sufficiency**: Target 1: Create agriculture food growing and food processing cooperatives at the community and village levels. Actions: food growing training to 200 farmer families at the village level; animal husbandry training to 250 farmers and women. Target 2: Provide food growing seeds to the poor for year-round food growing: provided best seeds to 200 farmer families for growing squash and carrots. **Goal 6: Reduce child mortality and improve health**: Target 1: Create clean water and sanitation programs in poor communities. Actions: help maintain 4 sanitation facilities running well; ensure that 7 communities in poor areas have clean water = 3,000 people. Target 2: Reduce water-borne diseases, especially among children, through clean water and sanitation. Actions: with the sanitation facilities, 1,800 children do not use dirty river water anymore and water-borne diseases have been greatly reduced. Target 4: Educate people and communities to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS. The proposed HIV/AIDS education project plans to educate young people, families and drug addicts in the Nachong region to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS = 1,000,000 people. **Goals 7: Reduce family abuse, domestic violence, abuse of seniors and children**: Target 1: Train counsellors and provide counselling to prevent such abuse. Actions: provided counselling to 150 individuals against senior abuse; provided counselling to 100 individuals on preventing abuse of women. Target 5: Provide education and promotional presentations and services to narrow the gap between immigrants and mainstream service. Actions: organized

presentations for 800 immigrants on health care; provided 320 women with free breast cancer screening and cervical cancer screening; organized seminar for 500 new immigrants to understand government rules and regulations; hosted field trips for 1,000 new immigrants to understand more of the country's culture. **Goal 8: Promote gender equality and empowerment of women**: Target 1: Eliminate gender disparity in education, skills training and in providing employable skills. Actions: sewing skills training for 26 women; (b) animal husbandry training for 60 women. **Goal 9: Achieve environmental sustainability**: Target 1: Reduce the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water. Actions: help maintain 4 sanitation facilities; ensured that 3,000 people, including children, have safe drinking water. Target 2: Achieve significant improvements in the lives of many slum dwellers. Actions: maintain the sanitation facilities running well to ensure people living in slum areas have clean drinking water — 3,000; increased awareness of how to maintain a clean environment.

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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Adalah: Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Adalah ("justice" in Arabic) is an independent human rights organization and legal centre with offices in Haifa in the north and Beer el-Sabe (Beer Sheva) in the south of Israel. Established in November 1996, Adalah serves Palestinian citizens of the State of Israel, numbering 1.2 million people or close to 20 per cent of the population, and Palestinians living in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Adalah's main objectives are to achieve equal individual and collective rights for the Palestinian Arab minority in the State of Israel and to defend the rights of Palestinians living under occupation.

In January 2007, Adalah's Board of Directors decided to expand Adalah's mandate to include the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The formal expansion of the mandate allows Adalah to develop this area of its work systematically and to become an important address for Palestinian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in impact litigation cases to be brought before the Israeli courts.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Throughout 2005, Adalah, as a part of the Working Group on the Status of Palestinian Women Citizens of Israel, contributed to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. In 2005, the Working Group submitted an NGO alternative report to the Committee's pre-sessional task force; and an Adalah staff attorney attended the Committee's country review of the State of Israel, which was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel in 1967. Also in 2005, Adalah submitted briefing papers on our Supreme Court litigation concerning the rights of Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory to the Special Rapporteur in preparation for his reports and statements at the sixty-first session of the Commission for Human Rights, held in Geneva. The United Nations Commission on Human Rights: Adalah delivered two written and oral interventions at the sixty-first session of the Commission on the rights of Palestinian citizens of the State of Israel and of Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. In 2006, Adalah submitted four further written interventions at the sixty-second and final session of the Commission, one jointly with Al-Haq and another jointly with the Habitat International Coalition.

The United Nations Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories. Adalah's General Director gave testimony before the Committee in July 2005, November 2006 and July 2007, analysing significant developments in Israeli Supreme Court jurisprudence and legislation enacted by the Israeli parliament, and selected cases litigated by Adalah, including the revocation of Palestinians' Jerusalem residency rights, and the ban on family unification between Palestinians.

In June 2008, an Adalah staff attorney testified before the Committee, focusing on a legal analysis of recent Israeli Supreme Court cases dealing with the status of Gaza.

In December 2005, Adalah submitted an NGO alternative report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in advance of its preparation of its List of Issues and Questions for the State of Israel. In February 2007, Adalah submitted a follow-up report to the Committee, and an Adalah staff attorney and Adalah's International Advocacy Director attended the Committee's review of the State of Israel at its seventieth session, in Geneva.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions: In January 2006, Adalah submitted a dossier of information to the Special Rapporteur on the fatal shootings of 13 Palestinian citizens of the State of Israel in October 2000 and a follow-up letter in November 2006; additional information was provided to the Special Rapporteur in 2008.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights visited the State of Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory in November 2006. On the occasion, Adalah requested intervention in five key human rights issues affecting Palestinians.

In February 2007, Adalah presented the Chairperson of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child with six short position papers on issues affecting Arab children in the State of Israel.

The United Nations Special Representative on minority rights: In December 2007, Adalah's General Director participated as an expert consultant at a meeting held in Geneva, with the Special Representative on a wide range of issues concerning Palestinians and the denial or deprivation of citizenship, including the problem of citizenship for Palestinian refugees, Palestinian citizens of the State of Israel and Palestinians living in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on religious freedom visited Adalah's offices in January 2008 for a briefing at which Arab religious leaders and Adalah urged that discrimination against Arab religious communities cease.

In February 2008, Adalah and partner Al-Haq and the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights-Gaza submitted a joint briefing paper to the United Nations Human Rights Council analysing the Israeli Supreme Court's decision of 30 January 2008 to reject a petition challenging fuel and electricity cuts to the Gaza Strip.

In September 2008, Adalah submitted an NGO alternative report to the United Nations Committee against Torture. In November 2008, an Adalah staff attorney and additional representatives from the Committee against Torture coalition, including Al-Haq, introduced the main issues contained in the report to the Committee's Country Rapporteurs on the State of Israel and international NGOs working to eradicate torture, in Geneva.

In July 2008, Adalah submitted an NGO report to the United Nations Human Rights Council's universal periodic review to assist in the first review of the State of Israel under the universal periodic review mechanism. In December 2008, an Adalah staff attorney attended the universal periodic review session in Geneva and introduced Adalah's report.

The United Nations Human Rights Council Forum on Minority Issues: In December 2008, an Adalah staff attorney participated as an expert at the inaugural session of

the Forum in Geneva. Experts from around the world were invited to comment on a draft recommendation on minorities and the right to education that may be adopted as an authoritative interpretation of international human rights law. Adalah provided interventions on budgets, access to education for girls, and curriculum development.

2. Greek Council for Refugees (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

The Greek Council for Refugees (GCR) continues to support, at the operational level, one of the main goals and objectives of the United Nations: the protection and integration of refugees on the basis of the 1951 Geneva Convention and the New York Protocol of 1967.

Significant changes in the organization: (a) Constitution: the organization's aims and purposes remained the same; (b) Governing Board: A new Governing Board was elected following the GCR General Assembly of 2007; (c) membership: The total number has grown to 109, currently; (d) areas of activities: while its broad aims and objectives, as well as the nature of its activities remained the same, GCR has expanded its range in Greece; it has also enhanced significantly its cooperation with non-Greek NGOs and its operations extended to other countries. Furthermore, its advocacy role has been strengthened; (e) sources of funding: GCR continued its efforts to seek alternative funding, mainly from the private sector. In 2008, the total cost of its programmes was euros 1,769,377, provided by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) 2.68 per cent; GCR 0.05 per cent; European Union 25.68 per cent; Government 55.72 per cent; private sector 15.87 per cent.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: GCR activities continued to focus on the protection and integration of refugees on the basis of the 1951 Geneva Convention and the New York Protocol. In practice, activities may be divided into three broad categories, even though they are complementary to each other and often intertwined.

Legal services: (a) facilitation of access to the asylum procedure and provision of initial orientation and guidance to newly arrived individuals; (b) provision of legal assistance and legal representation, free of charge, to newcomers and to established refugees and asylum-seekers, as appropriate: at the first degree of examination of their application; before the ad hoc advisory committee (the "Appeals Board") at the second degree; and/or before the courts or other authorities, such as the Council of State; (c) As many clandestine immigrants arrive at greatly dispersed border areas of Greece, GCR makes available, in consultation with UNHCR and the competent Ministries, provision of legal assistance and case assessment from its main resources; and through a country-wide network of legal aid for the provision of efficient assistance to asylum-seekers, in outlying areas; (d) monitoring of political/legislative developments and organization/participation in informative seminars.

Social services: The aim of the department is to facilitate the integration and attainment of independence of asylum-seekers, refugees and those admissible under humanitarian status, on an individual or group basis. The Central Social Service

provides counselling and information, intervenes in institutions and services on behalf of the people served (in relation to educational, health, employment issues, etc.): extensive sessions with individuals/families cover counselling and information; while interventions with the pertinent authorities regarding health issues (i.e., medical tests, treatments, medical attendance, etc.) assists daily newcomers and other refugees and asylum-seekers.

The reception of newcomers focuses mainly on ensuring accommodation in reception centres and temporary accommodation.

Integration: The "PYXIDA" (compass) Intercultural Centre facilitates integration through activities such as the instruction of the Greek language, tutorial teaching, setting up and operation of hobby groups, cultural activities, etc. Children were prepared, mainly with lessons of Greek, inter alia, in order to enable them to enrol in Greek schools. In addition, lessons of Greek for adults, English, French, German, and the use of computers were offered.

Accommodation for vulnerable cases of asylum-seekers: GCR developed and operated a programme in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity, providing temporary housing in the area of Athens and in relevant reception centres. A total of 407 persons were offered services during 2008.

Employment: The Employment Service seeks job placement for refugees with emphasis also given to the preparation of women refugees for employment.

"Iolaos" programme for the psychosocial rehabilitation of refugees with mental disorders: An innovative programme for the rehabilitation of refugees with mental disorders started in 2001 and continues to the present. The "Iolaos" consists of a hostel for in-patient care, a day centre for outpatient services and protected apartments for persons ready to move from the hostel to independent but supervised quarters. The Unit operates with professionally qualified staff under the supervision of a psychiatrist and the therapeutic programmes are drawn up on the basis of each refugee's particular needs, combined with the integration process.

Presence of GCR in wider collaborations: (a) National Committee on Human Rights: GCR is one of the six NGO members. At deliberations of the various NCHR departments, GCR representatives have taken an active role in raising issues and submitting recommendations for the improvement of legislation and of practices relating to refugees and asylum-seekers; (b) International Development Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece: GCR participated in the NGO National Counselling Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs together with all the NGOs that are registered in the International Development Cooperation Department. GCR is also a member of the NGOs Network of European Orientation organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and (c) cooperation with other NGOs which contributed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations. GCR participated and/or collaborated in programmes with international and national NGOs, including the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) that focused on the protection of refugees.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies: The main partner of GCR remains the UNHCR. It participated and collaborated actively at the local level, at its headquarters annual meetings of the Executive Committee in Geneva and in other meetings of United Nations agencies, based on their relevancy and its financial capacity at the time or reporting.

Sensitization and public awareness of refugee issues: Participated in and/or organized public discussions for this purpose. It has also developed a programme of awareness among schoolchildren with the organization of meetings and other events in schools.

3. Human Rights Watch (Special; 1993)

I. Introduction

Human Rights Watch (HRW) is dedicated to the promotion and protection of human rights around the world. HRW investigates and exposes human rights violations in some 80 countries. The organization stands with victims and activists to prevent discrimination, uphold political freedom, protect those subject to unlawful conduct during wartime and to help bring offenders to justice. On 26 November 2008, HRW won the United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights in recognition of its outstanding achievement in human rights. HRW is the largest international human rights organization based in the United States. It began in 1978 with the founding of its Europe and Central Asia division (then known as Helsinki Watch). Today, HRW is divided into regional and thematic programmes. Regional divisions are: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa and the United States of America. Thematic programmes are arms; business and human rights; children's rights; emergencies; health and human rights; international justice; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights; refugees; terrorism and counter-terrorism; and women's rights.

HRW is based in New York City and has offices and staff in Abidjan, Bangkok, Beirut, Berlin, Bishkek, Brussels, Cairo, Chicago, Geneva, Goma, Johannesburg, Kigali, London, Los Angeles, Moscow, Paris, San Francisco, Tokyo, Toronto and Washington, D.C. HRW is an independent NGO, supported by contributions from private individuals and foundations worldwide. It does not accept government funds, either directly or indirectly.

Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: (a) Throughout this reporting period, HRW representatives participated in the sessions of the Human Rights Council and its predecessor, the Commission on Human Rights. HRW monitored and participated in the institution-building process that led to the creation of the Human Rights Council and the adoption of its institution-building package. HRW representatives also participated in sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and meetings of the Executive Committee of UNHCR; (b) Each year, HRW made oral interventions and submitted written statements to the Commission on Human Rights and Human Rights Council, including statements on the rights of minorities, gender integration, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and issues dealing with individual country situations. It submitted many statements as part of the Universal Periodic Review process at the HRC and sponsored and participated in side events at the HRC on issues such as ensuring human rights in drug policy and human rights and business (2008), the Iraqi refugee

crisis (2007) and the human rights situation in Sri Lanka (2006); (c) representatives of HRW meetings of the Preparatory Committee, the 2006 High-Level Meeting on AIDS in New York, the United Nations 2005 World Summit, held in New York and several other United Nations meetings; (d) delivered presentations, including at a training session by United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) (2006), and at the "New Human Rights Dialogue Series" (2008).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters: (a) HRW frequently provided information to the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and various treaty bodies. We regularly attended sessions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee against Torture and other treaty committees, submitting information and providing responses to inquiries. HRW met and shared its reports with the Chairs of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and with various thematic and country Special Rapporteurs and independent experts; (b) maintained contact with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNHCR and the office of the Secretary-General, keeping them abreast of HRW findings and presenting recommendations on various issues; (c) participated in the Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children (2004-2006); (d) HRW also provided information to representatives of the Secretary-General, including the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict; (e) consulted with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on a number of issues, including child soldiers, child labour and police violence against street children, and made a statement on violence against children at a meeting of the UNICEF executive board (2007); (f) provided human rights materials to other United Nations bodies such as UNHCR, UNDP and OCHA. At country level, HRW representatives frequently consulted with and provided information to United Nations officials at all levels, including Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators, United Nations agency heads and others; (g) advocated for the implementation of human rights resolutions adopted by the HRC and the General Assembly. HRW also supported General Assembly action for United Nations gender reform within the context of system-wide coherence; (h) HRW also engaged with the United Nations Security Council, including through Arria Formula meetings, which allow NGOs to present information and proposals to members of the Council. In the last four years, HRW representatives made presentations at numerous Arria Formula meetings, including those on Chad and the Central African Republic, Somalia, the responsibility to protect, peace and security in the Great Lakes region and strengthening international law; (i) was engaged with the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict regarding the implementation of resolution 1612 (2005). HRW also supported the adoption of Security Council resolution 1820 (2008); (j) attached great importance to the creation of the International Criminal Court and actively called upon States Members of the United Nations to ratify the Rome Statute. Since the establishment of the International Criminal Court in 2002, HRW has maintained regular contacts with the court's officers. In addition, HRW regularly met with representatives of States parties to the Rome Statute to discuss issues relevant to the execution of the court's mandate, such as state cooperation in a number of areas, including the arrest of suspects. HRW also advocated with States parties to the Rome Statute to ensure that in those countries where the International

Criminal Court may have jurisdiction, justice for the worst crimes in violation of international law remains a priority in political negotiations aimed at ending the underlying conflict; (k) maintained contact with the staffs of the ad hoc International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the International Tribunal for Rwanda. HRW expert testimony and legal analysis was used by judges in a number of tribunal judgements. HRW staff members frequently met with the chief prosecutors to discuss efforts to investigate and prosecute rape as a war crime, witness protection and a range of other issues. HRW also provided legal analysis and reports to the United Nations Special Court for Sierra Leone.

4. Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

Mission: The Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (Tebtebba Foundation) is an indigenous peoples' organization and a research, education, and policy advocacy and resource centre working with indigenous peoples at all levels and arenas. We seek the recognition and promotion of indigenous peoples' rights and aspirations while building unities to uphold social and environmental justice. We shall achieve this by reinforcing the capacities of indigenous peoples for advocacy, campaigns and networking; research, education, training and institutional development; and by actively articulating and projecting indigenous peoples' views and aspirations. **Vision**: A world where indigenous knowledge and indigenous peoples' rights are respected and protected by all nations and societies; where there are unified yet diverse and vibrant indigenous peoples' movements at the local and global levels which enhance the self-determination and sustainable development of indigenous peoples and their territories.

Aims of the organization: To achieve its mission through the various desks that it has set up during the reporting period: Networking, Advocacy and Campaigns; Research, Education and Documentation; Publications; Gender; Legal Desk; and Resource Centre. For the reporting period, some areas of activities were expanded. In 2005, a new project called the Indigenous Peoples Capacity-Building and Advocacy Project on the Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity was set up. This project sought, among other things: to enable indigenous peoples to be engaged in the implementation of the Convention of the national level. This project, currently in its second phase (2008-2009), increased Tebtebba's involvement in the Convention and also in national efforts towards its implementation.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: The organization's representatives attended/participated in the following.

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, at United Nations Headquarters, New York: fourth session, 2005. Tebtebba Foundation's Executive Director was appointed as a Forum member by the Council for the term 2005-2007 and was elected as Chairperson of the Forum for the session; at the fifth, sixth and

seventh sessions (2006-2008), it made relevant submissions for inclusion in reports of the Forum.

Convention on Biological Diversity: (a) sixth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, 2008, Geneva; (b) ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2008, Bonn, Germany; (c) fifth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, 2007, Montreal, Canada; (d) fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions, 2007, Montreal, Canada. At the fifth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, Tebtebba Foundation organized the side event on Indicators Relevant for Indigenous Peoples and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Working Group on Indigenous Populations, twenty-third session, 2005, Geneva.

Sixty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly: Tebtebba Executive Director participated, 2007, and worked towards the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2007: United Nations Climate Change Conference, 2007, Bali Indonesia, organized a side event on local adaptation and mitigation measures of indigenous peoples on climate change; 2008: Climate Change Talks, in Bonn, Germany; Accra and Bangkok; and the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Poznań, Poland.

Universal Periodic Review: supported the Indigenous Peoples' Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN) of Indonesia in its submission at the first session of the Universal Periodic Review held in 2008, in Geneva.

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination: seventy-first session, 2007, Geneva, supported AMAN in its submission entitled "Request for Consideration of the Situation of Indigenous Peoples in Kalimantan, Indonesia, under the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination's Urgent Action and Early Warning Procedures".

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) — In 2005, IFAD supported the project on Good Practices on Indigenous Peoples' Development, which was implemented by Tebtebba Foundation with the Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. It supported the Assessment of the first International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, which was undertaken by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and Tebtebba Foundation in 2005-2006.

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity — The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity supported the activities organized by Tebtebba — the International Expert Seminar on Indicators Relevant for Indigenous Peoples, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Millennium Development Goals, in 2006 in Banaue, Philippines.

United Nations University — In 2008, UNU co-organized with the Tebtebba Foundation, two consultations with indigenous peoples on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), held in Baguio City, Philippines. In 2008, UNU co-published with Tebtebba "REDD: A Guide for Indigenous Peoples".

Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues — Tebtebba maintained close working relationship with the Secretariat of the Forum and it supported activities of Tebtebba as described above.

Special Rapporteur on the situation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people: 2007, Tebtebba Foundation organized the Philippine follow-up visit of the special representative.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: Tebtebba worked towards the elaboration of indicators of well-being for indigenous peoples. It identified data collection and disaggregation on indigenous peoples as a priority and undertook a pilot project in the Philippines in 2005-2006; among other activities and events, described above, in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Activities in support of global principles: Actively promoted the International Day of the World's Indigenous People (9 August), the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (2005-2014) and the popularization of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; several activities attended by indigenous peoples, government agencies, NGOs and United Nations agencies and multilateral bodies were held in 2006, in Manila; as well as the Indigenous Peoples' Film Festival, in 2007 and 2008 in the Philippines.

5. International Academy of Architecture (Special; 1989)

I. Introduction

The International Academy of Architecture (IAA) was founded in 1987.

Active individual members: 73 academicians and 82 professors from: Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, leading Masters of world contemporary architecture.

Governing bodies: General Assembly (sessions every three years), Academic Council (sessions every year). The IAA has centres in France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, Turkey and the United States of America.

Aims of the organization: (a) stimulate architecture and architectural theory; (b) support the United Nations, Economic and Social Council, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, (UNESCO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), UNICEF programmes, declarations, resolutions and events; (c) organize the World Triennial of Architecture "Interarch-Sofia" — every three years under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria, UNECSO and the International Union of Architects (UIA); (d) organize post-graduate courses (workshops) for young, talented architects from different countries, under the leadership of outstanding IAA members; (e) organize international conferences, competitions, exhibitions, discussions, and round tables on the problems of contemporary world architecture.

Main IAA activities are in the field of: (a) sustainable development of architecture and town planning; (b) architectural theory and its criticism; (c) architectural education and professional qualification; (d) social housing; (e) architecture and ecology; (f) architecture and children; and (g) professional information.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: At every "Interarch-Sofia" International Forum, the IAA underlined in all the papers of IAA members on the architecture of the twenty-first century, the Millennium Development Goals. This is the contribution of IAA to the Millennium Development Goal Programme and discussions and round table on low-cost housing, children and architecture, as well as schools projects architecture and ecology, human housing, and environment sustainability.

It was not possible for IAA representatives to take part regularly in the UN-Habitat conferences and meetings, as IAA is a self-financing NGO with a very restricted budget, but IAA remained informed about the United Nations and its agencies, declarations and programmes, connected with architecture.

Other IAA professional activities: (a) World Triennial of Architecture (mentioned above). The IAA President once again underlined the main goals of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014), officially launched on 1 March 2005, in New York; (b) it also successfully organized in cooperation with the Colegio di Arquitectos and Municipality of Culiacan, Mexico, in 2005, an international competition on City and Land Urban opportunities; (c) and in 2005, organized in Nagoya, Japan, in cooperation with the IAA centre in Japan and the Municipality of Nagoya, an international forum-competition. After every IAA event the participants were interviewed by different media; (d) it also organized in Istanbul an international conference on the architecture of the twenty-first century, as well as in Turin, in 2008; (e) IAA members took an active part in the annual Russian festival of architecture, Zodchestvo, every October from 2005 to 2008 in Moscow; (f) organized an international conference, in cooperation with the Municipality of Rome and the IAA Centre in Italy, in 2006; (g) in cooperation with the Megacities Foundation, the IAA centre in Rotterdam, Netherlands, organized an annual international conference on the significant problems of the mega-cities; (h) participation of IAA President in the International Forums of Krasnodar (2007 and 2008), Russian Federation; (i) International Forum of Young Architects organized a workshop for talented young architects in 2007 in Sochi, Russian Federation, on the theme "Krasnodar — city of 21st century" and "Olympic Stadium in Sochi", in which 15 young architects from Bulgaria, Germany, Italy, Poland and the Russian Federation took part; (j) successfully organized a workshop in 2008 in Sofia on effective architecture and intelligent buildings with the participation of talented young architects from Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Poland and the Russian Federation; (k) This unique exhibition was presented in many countries; (l) in addition, IAA published the architectural magazine "World Architecture Masters" (WAM), which includes IAA news, architectural information about IAA activity and events, as well as the new architectural masterpieces of world architecture; (m) at its tenth Assembly, in 2006, IAA members approved very active and ambitious working programmes for the future, concerning the most important problems of our society. The IAA operative structure and secretariat will do their best to successfully implement these resolutions.

6. United for Intercultural Action (Special; 1997)

I. Introduction

United for Intercultural Action (UNITED) is the only pan-European anti-racism network, currently of 569 network organizations from 46 European countries. It is an open network that unites organizations, institutes and informal groups throughout Europe in their fight against racism, fascism, nationalism and related intolerance and to support migrants, refugees and minority groups. Linked through UNITED, hundreds of organizations from a wide variety of backgrounds work together on a voluntary basis.

Aims of the organization: UNITED is specialized in the empowering and capacity-building of local grass-roots organizations and acts as an exchange platform of good practice, expertise, know-how and training on different levels. The UNITED Network creates tools and sets up specific projects and campaigns addressing the individual needs of stakeholders in the European anti-discrimination movement. UNITED brings together experts and activists from organizations all over Europe in two to three large-scale conferences a year; coordinates three European-wide campaigns to raise awareness about the topics addressed in mainstream media and the general public, as well as diverse activities planned during the above-mentioned conferences; and acts as an information desk for the European anti-discrimination movement.

UNITED keeps an extensive up-to-date database with data on more than 10,000 contacts active in the field and a large archive of printed materials and expert sources from about 2,200 contacts. The activities of the network organizations are supported by the production of educative information and networking tools, such as the annual *European Address Book against Racism*, the regular published *Calendar of Internationalism*, campaign material (newspaper, posters, stickers, postcards are distributed throughout Europe in large quantities) and practical "info-leaflets". These materials and tools are distributed through a reliable (postal) mailing system to 2,200 active contacts in the field. Furthermore, the organization reaches out electronically (regular e-news through targeted mailing lists) and traditional means of communication (telephone and facsimile) to more than 8,000 contacts, including grass-roots organizations, youth groups, educational institutes, journalists, media, local politicians, ministers and members of European parliaments, among others.

Financial contributions are sought from a wide range of supporting organizations, foundations and individuals, national ministries, the Council of Europe and the Commission of the European Union. UNITED has participatory status at the Council of Europe and is an elected member in the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

In the period 2005-2008, UNITED organized and coordinated two European-wide social awareness campaigns related to United Nations International Days: (a) 21 March was declared International Day for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination by the General Assembly of the United Nations as a reaction to the murder of 69 anti-apartheid demonstrators in Sharpeville, South Africa, in 1960. UNITED cherishes this International Day by organizing annually around that

date the European-wide Action Week Against Racism. The Action Week has become the broadest annual anti-racism campaign in Europe, inviting hundreds of organizations and thousands of people to become active to promote the values of equality, respect and diversity and to actively fight racism and discrimination; (b) In 2001 a special United Nations General Assembly resolution was adopted to declare the former African Refugee Day as International Refugee Day as an expression of solidarity with Africa, which hosts the most refugees. The General Assembly noted that 2001 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and that the Organization of African Unity had agreed to have International Refugee Day coincide with African Refugee Day on 20 June. UNITED organized and coordinated an annual European-wide campaign around this date. This campaign aimed to highlight the issues of refugees from a non-governmental perspective on all levels — local, national and European; (c) The *Calendar of Internationalism* is an ongoing project of the UNITED Network and acts as a public source and information tool about events within the European anti-discrimination movement. Besides other events, the calendar promoted information on United Nations human rights meetings and relevant activities of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies. Besides the weekly updated online version of the *Calendar*, UNITED published and disseminated four to six printed editions a year; (d) The *European Address Book against Racism* is one of the best-known and most widely used reference books in the anti-discrimination movement throughout Europe. It provided detailed contact data and information about active groups, institutions and NGOs in Europe and their operative fields. The *Address Book* promoted contact information to all European offices of UNHCR and other relevant United Nations bodies (e.g., UNICEF, UNESCO and the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service).

All European offices of UNHCR and the central offices of UNHCR and OHCHR are on the UNITED mailing list and receive news of the NGOs working against intolerance and discrimination in Europe, as well as all publications produced by UNITED (*Address Book against Racism*, *Calendar of Internationalism*, campaign material, etc.). There is an active exchange of information especially with the European Union office of UNHCR. Other United Nations offices have also included UNITED on their regular mailing lists.

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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Abdul Momen Khan Memorial Foundation (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

The Abdul Momen Khan Memorial Foundation (Khan Foundation) (KF) is a private non-profit philanthropic organization devoted to promoting democratic and socio-economic development in Bangladesh. It brings together parliamentarians, academics, professionals, members of civil society, executives and the business community and, at the same time, includes farmers, women and children and other disadvantaged groups at the grass-roots level. Its main aim is to alleviate poverty and generate productive employment through advocacy and training and to promote the cause of "democracy for development and development for democracy".

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization regularly participates in the work of the United Nations and aims to advance the objectives of the Economic and Social Council, United Nations agencies and subsidiary bodies, including by carrying out preparatory activities for various major conferences, organizing events in connection with other United Nations meetings and carrying out activities in support of United Nations global principles. The Khan Foundation works towards the goal of achieving democracy and human rights in the belief that democracy needs to be established and sustained if a country wishes to promote universal human rights, including, inter alia, freedom of speech, civil liberties, voting rights, women's and children's rights.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: the Executive Director of the Khan Foundation participated in the meetings of the 51st session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Democracy and development: (a) strengthening of local government in order to ensure grass-roots development. This has been achieved by training public representatives at the grass-roots level by organizing seminars, training workshops and democracy fairs in different parts of Bangladesh; (b) national seminar on local government held on 25 May 2006 at the Democracy Auditorium of the Khan Foundation, Bangladesh, at which participants discussed how to hold a transparent and free and fair election in Bangladesh. **Monitoring of General Elections 2009**: as a partner of the non-partisan Election Working Group, a 32-member national coalition of civil society organizations, sponsored and promoted by the international community, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Khan Foundation participated as an observer of the ninth parliamentary elections of Bangladesh, held on 29 December 2008. KF undertook election observation in 16 constituencies in 8 districts and deployed 8,823 observers in these centres. The goal was to achieve transparency of voting with a view to strengthening a transparent and accountable system of governance in Bangladesh. **Good governance and anti-corruption awareness**: during 2007 and 2008, KF collaborated with PROGATI (Promoting Governance, Accountability, Transparency and Accountability), a project of the United States Agency for International

Development in an attempt to reduce corruption and thus ensure good governance. KF developed a module on citizen monitoring of public services, conducted five days' training on this module for various grass-roots groups around the country. KF conducted an anti-corruption campaign and citizen monitoring campaign in various districts of Bangladesh. **Population and development**: KF continued its involvement with the International Conference on Population and Development by taking part in Preparatory Committee meetings. It organized a whole range of policy dialogues, round tables on different issues, including implementation of Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in Bangladesh in accordance with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and World Health Organization (WHO) principles. **Combating trafficking of women and children**: (a) Conference on "Trafficking on the SAARC Agenda: The Way Forward", held on 17 November 2005 in Dhaka, in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); (b) trafficking in women and children programme — various activities to save and rehabilitate helpless women and children. KF has tried to highlight the issue of trafficking in women and children in its different programmes through an integrated approach. The Foundation carried out two simultaneous programmes, through which the local-level elected representatives received training on multiple issues; (c) project entitled "Effective Involvement of Elected Women Members in the Local Government Structure: A Participatory Approach". KF has trained 41,146 elected women members in the local government of different districts on trafficking in women and children; the sixth Women's Lawyers' Congress was held on 22 and 23 March 2005 in Bangladesh and was funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); (d) project on capacity-building of Union Parishad; KF has focused on women and the consequences and dangers of trafficking. **Gender awareness**: based on an agreement between the Khan Foundation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the organization worked on a gender mainstreaming programme for the empowerment of coastal fishing communities in Cox's Bazar. Presently, KF is in the process of developing an operational manual on enhancing women's networking forums. In order to create awareness and sensitize the aforementioned groups and encourage the establishment of a sensitive courtroom environment, the Khan Foundation organized workshops on gender equality issues in the justice system at the Foundation's Democracy Auditorium. KF received active support from the Supreme Court of Bangladesh for organizing this programme. **Poverty Alleviation Programme (RCP)**: the Rural Credit Programme provided support to disadvantaged rural women and helped them gain economic self-sufficiency. It provided loans to women at the grass-roots level without collateral so that borrowers could invest their money in various income-generating activities within the small and medium enterprise training projects in order to improve their economic power, promote solvency and ultimately raise social awareness. The recovery rate for Khan Foundation has been above 95 per cent, one of the highest recovery rates in the country. KF consciously involved adolescent girls in this income-generation programme.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: the Khan Foundation has been working on promoting health and safety by reducing the infant mortality rate (Goal 4), tackling maternal health problems (Goal 5) and preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS (Goal 6). Its main targets are women and children, the majority of whom are neither aware about how to prevent them nor have access to proper health care and medication. The Khan Foundation's campaigns to increase awareness about

HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases continued during the reporting period: it provided free medical support to 1,792 participants of disadvantaged groups, including street children, slum children, domestic children, sex workers and garment workers. The project was largely funded by the German Embassy. Since July 2005 KF has also provided pathological support to 106 participants.

Activities in support of global principles: (a) Universal Children's Day (20 November) and World Children's Day (2 October) were observed by the Khan Foundation every year from 2005 to 2008 to promote the goals, including ensuring children's rights and eliminating child labour and trafficking. Members of Parliament, policymakers, professionals, academics, social activists, bureaucrats, business groups and trade organizations were brought together by KF during 2006 and 2007 to discuss issues of child labour and child trafficking and work out ways and means of advancing these causes in Bangladesh; (b) KF organized International Women's Day (8 March) with the objective of eliminating all kinds of discrimination against women from 2005 to 2008. Participants included women activists, ambassadors in Bangladesh (in particular, women ambassadors in Bangladesh), the UNDP Representative, grass-roots groups and street children. A fair, including a short play on women's rights by renowned National Play Group "Nagorik Natyangan", was organized with great enthusiasm on 8 March 2008 on the KF campus; (c) on Human Rights Day (10 December 2007), the Bangladesh National Commission on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) organized a seminar in which the Khan Foundation participated and presented a paper on human rights and education.

Research and publications: the Khan Foundation actively participated and presented papers in many national and international seminars and conferences related to the goals of the United Nations.

2. Advocates for Youth (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Advocates for Youth was founded as the Center for Population Options in 1980. It promotes programmes and policies domestically and internationally that help young people make responsible decisions about their sexual and reproductive health. The organization was one of the first to put adolescents' reproductive and sexual health needs in the agenda of the international family planning field; it created Life Planning Education, a ground-breaking programme that put sexuality into a life-skills/youth development context; and it has been at the forefront of a national and international legislative strategy to support evidence-based programming for young people. Advocates for Youth provides information, training, and strategic assistance to youth-serving organizations, policymakers, youth activists, and media in the United States of America and developing countries.

Rights.Respect.Responsibility.® continues to serve as Advocates for Youth's vision: all young people have inalienable rights to accurate and complete sexual health information, confidential services and a secure stake in the future; youth deserve respect and should be meaningfully involved in policies and programmes that affect their health and well-being; and society has the responsibility to provide all young people with the tools they need to safeguard their sexual health, while youth have

the responsibility to protect themselves from too-early childbearing and sexually transmitted infections.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: with the support of UNFPA, Advocates for Youth, in collaboration with the Global Youth Coalition on AIDS, organized a two-day youth summit for 60 young people from 30 countries at the United Nations high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS. The goal of the summit was to empower youth leaders to inform, educate and influence government with regard to funding, programmes and/or policies for youth and HIV/AIDS. Advocates sponsored 12 youth participants from Botswana, Jamaica, Nigeria, Peru and the United States of America. Topics addressed during the summit included: an overview of the United Nations system; responses to the global AIDS pandemic; interventions to achieve the global goals on HIV/AIDS among young people in low- and middle-income countries; HIV prevention programming for adolescents; educational outreach to United Nations missions; and media and message development. The last part of the summit focused on developing a youth message, which young people shared with their delegations over the course of the meeting. Beyond the youth summit, participants attended panels, round tables, civil society meetings and meetings with country delegatio during the high-level meeting. Advocates also co-facilitated the youth caucus meetings held during the high-level meeting, each of which was attended by approximately 35 youth. Advocates for Youth nominated one of its youth activists from Jamaica to speak on the panel on the feminization of HIV/AIDS at the high-level meeting and to address the need for more comprehensive HIV prevention information and reproductive health services for young women and young people in order to prevent HIV. During the high-level meeting, Advocates for Youth drew media attention to the needs and roles of young people in preventing HIV around the world. In addition, one of Advocates for Youth's activists from the United States of America blogged throughout the meeting, posting blogs on www.rhrealitycheck.org, a website focused on reproductive and sexual health policies and issues.

Prior to the meeting, Advocates for Youth and the Global Youth Coalition on AIDS met with 16 country missions and with the Office of the President of the General Assembly to share information about new HIV infections among youth and suggested language for country statements or the declaration. As a result, language was included in the declaration that references the need for comprehensive HIV prevention education for young people and access to condoms.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDG): Advocates for Youth contributed in numerous countries, with specific emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean: Goal 5: Improve maternal health (target: achieve universal access to reproductive health); and Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (target: have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS).

Since February 2008 — Advocates' International Youth Speak Out Project worked to support youth activists in Ethiopia, Jamaica and Nigeria, and around the world, to advocate for improved youth reproductive and sexual health policies in their countries, including ensuring access to contraception and HIV prevention, testing and treatment. Advocates for Youth reached 1,200 youth activists across

60 countries every month with information on sexual and reproductive health issues and policies and built the capacity of 30 young leaders to advocate for sexual and reproductive health.

January-August 2008 — Advocates for Youth, in partnership with the International AIDS Society, UNFPA, the Global Youth Coalition on AIDS, Youth Coalition, TakingITGlobal and Ave de México, implemented core components of the International AIDS Conference's Mexico Youth Force. As a leading partner of the Youth Force, Advocates for Youth secured streamlined participation of young people in plenaries and in organizing committees; trained a total of 250 young people in global HIV/AIDS issues, policies and advocacy, implemented an advocacy campaign that disseminated messages developed by young people prior to the conference; supported a youth reception and the youth pavilion; and contributed through presentations during the conference itself.

February 2005-February 2008 — Advocates for Youth was a partner organization in the Jamaica's Solution to Youth Empowerment and Lifestyle (JA-STYLE) project, working with 19 community and faith-based organizations from nine parishes to improve life skills education and parent child communication with a focus on sexual and reproductive health, including adolescent pregnancy and HIV prevention. A total of 23,500 adolescents from 100 communities were reached.

Since January 2005 — Advocates for Youth reached 11,056,721 young people, parents and youth-serving professionals through its various websites and web interventions with information on sexual and reproductive health and policies. The Advocates for Youth website caters to youth activists globally and hosted a global blogathon for World AIDS Day and a Jamaica Safer Sex Week blogathon in 2008.

Since January 2005 — Advocates for Youth has continued its International Youth Leadership project, which supports a group of eight youth leaders from the Washington, D.C. area to mobilize peers, conduct media outreach and lobby the United States Government and international agencies for science-based international family planning and HIV prevention. Their advocacy efforts contributed to significant success in 2008. Council members participated in coalitions to plan World AIDS Day events in Washington, D.C., recruited youth for rallies and conducted media outreach for International Women's Day.

January-December 2005 — the YouthLife Initiative provided capacity-building to three youth-led non-profit organizations in Botswana, Nigeria and South Africa to manage, implement and sustain youth-focused HIV prevention programming and advocacy efforts.

January-December 2005 — Advocates for Youth concluded its six-cybercafe initiative, which supported gay rights non-profit organizations in Central America to train young people on how to use a computer and navigate the Internet and educate them on HIV prevention and safer sex practices. The project also supported cybercafes for youth in Botswana, Nigeria and South Africa.

3. League of Women Voters of the United States (Special; 1997)

I. Introduction

The League of Women Voters (LWV), a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Its goal is to empower citizens to shape better communities worldwide. The organization has worked since 1920 to improve our systems of government and public policies through citizen education and advocacy. It is a grass-roots organization, working at the national, state and local levels in the United States and is strictly non-partisan; it neither supports nor opposes candidates for office at any level of government. At the same time, the League is wholeheartedly political and works to influence policy through advocacy. It is the original grass-roots citizen network, directed by the consensus of its members nationwide. The 900 state and local leagues contribute a vast grass-roots lobby corps that can be mobilized when necessary. The organization remains true to its basic purpose: to make democracy work for all citizens.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: during the reporting period, LWV participated in and submitted written statements at Commission on the Status of Women meetings. In February and March 2005, LWV helped conduct caucuses on and for girls and conducted a political participation workshop side event. LWV also presented a parallel event at the United Nations LWV presented a training session to 200 girls on the Commission on the Status of Women process on 24 February 2007 at the United Nations Church Center in New York and assisted with the Girls Speak Out forum which was held on 2 March 2007 at United Nations Headquarters. This was immediately followed by a press conference at the United Nations in the press briefing room arranged by LWV and another organization. During all the Commission on the Status of Women meetings LWV spoke to Commission members and other Government delegates about the needs of the girl child, women and older women. Working with the members of non-governmental organizations coalitions, wording on these issues was drafted and suggested to government delegates. As a result, some of the wording was adopted by the delegates and used in outcome documents. These took place during all the Commission on the Status of Women meetings: in 2008, this included an emphasis on violence against girls; in 2007, LWV attended two round tables, one on discrimination against the girl child and the other on violence against the girl child. LWV, along with other non-governmental organizations, signed document EGM/FFGE/2007/OP.3 for the Expert Group Meeting on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women held in Oslo, 4 to 7 September 2007 and signed E/CN.5/2006/NGO/1 for the Commission for Social Development in 2006.

Cooperation with the United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies: a special focus for LWV at the United Nations has been as a member of the Steering Committee of the non-governmental organizations Committee on UNICEF Working Group on Girls, which worked to focus the attention of world Governments on the plight of girls. The Group worked closely with UNICEF. It formed the International Network for Girls, a worldwide advocacy network working on behalf of the girl

child and used information obtained from this network to prepare reports on the situation of girls worldwide which were presented to delegates at United Nations meetings. LWV worked on newsletters that were sent to members of the International Network for Girls to keep them abreast of United Nations issues and meetings about girls. LWV chaired the website committee of the Working Group. LWV also chaired a task force to protect girls from violence, in response to the Secretary-General's efforts to combat violence against women. It presented a programme on violence against girls on 29 November 2007 at United Nations Headquarters, New York, with speakers from the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and UNICEF. In 2008, LWV worked with the Division for the Advancement of Women on the Herbert Grants selection. LWV served on the Executive Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations Associated with the United Nations. Work on this Committee included serving on the Communications Workshop Committee and chairing a communication workshop in February 2006 at United Nations Headquarters in New York; chairing the Nominating Committee; co-chairing the website committee; conducting training sessions for non-governmental organizations and writing articles for the newsletter.

During the reporting period, LWV attended hearings and meetings at United Nations Headquarters, New York, held for non-governmental organizations by the Presidents of the General Assembly.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): LWV observers contributed to the work of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations by being an active member of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women. In 2008, because of its strong focus on global climate change, LWV joined the Task Force on Women and Climate Change of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, contributing to Goals 3 and 7. LWV worked in collaboration with the United States Fund for UNICEF. These efforts helped to promote Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. LWV attended the meetings of the five-year review of a World Fit for Children, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 11-13 December 2007, which promoted Goals 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Activities in support of global principles: LWV representatives carried out the following activities: (a) attended the briefings of the non-governmental organizations Committee on UNIFEM; (b) served on the Executive Board of the Council Of Organizations of the United Nations Association — United States of America and helped to plan their monthly briefing for the New York area; (c) served on the Association's National Council, whose mission was to promote the United Nations in the United States; (d) promoted issues through public speaking engagements and outreach to LWV members around the country; (e) local LWV members informed their communities about the United Nations and the work it accomplishes to urge financial support for the United Nations. In order to help local LWV members to do this, the national LWV wrote articles for the National Voter and distributed it to all members. Other articles about the United Nations were sent to the presidents of all local branches. Many local LWV organizations included these articles in their local newsletters.

Promoting democracy in the United States: the goal of most LWV programmes is to promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive; that protects individual liberties established by the Constitution; and that assures opportunities for citizen participation in government decision-making.

Our work grows from the conviction that government at all levels must be accountable, accessible to citizens and protective of their rights. Local LWV organizations monitor their local government meetings and address local issues. The LWV has been actively involved in getting out the vote; promoting communities of inclusion to combat racism; and informing the public about public policy issues. On a national level, the LWV has many positions that have been reached by grass-roots consensus or concurrence of all local LWV branches. These include positions on issues as diverse as representative government, citizen rights, international relations, natural resources, environmental protection and pollution control, climate change and social policy. The latter includes equality of opportunity, fiscal policy, health care, meeting basic human needs, childcare, early intervention for children at risk, violence prevention, gun control and urban policy. Local LWV organizations can act in their communities on these issues. Most of these issues are of concern to the Economic and Social Council. In addition to the national positions mentioned, state and local LWV organizations have positions they have arrived at in their state or local consensus process and they can act locally on these issues. International: LWV has been involved in many international initiatives to train grass-roots women leaders in the political process or provide technical assistance and training manuals to female candidates and observe or monitor elections. This has included the following programmes: in 2008, a programme in Armenia for non-governmental organization professionals; in 2006, LWV conducted training on organizing debates for political candidates in Abuja in preparation for Nigeria's April 2007 presidential, gubernatorial and legislative elections; LWV conducted an exchange programme with Kenyan citizens between 2005 and 2007; LWV held programmes of civic hosting for leaders from Tajikistan in October 2008 and in Azerbaijan in November 2008, and for Russian Federation leaders in October-November 2008; LWV worked on empowering citizens to influence public policy in Jamaica in 2005; LWV conducted a workshop on political skills for candidates in Zambia in 2006. **Promoting United Nations funding and issues on Capitol Hill**: LWV actively supported the establishment of the United Nations in 1945 and was invited by the United States to attend the United Nations Charter Conference in San Francisco, California, in 1945, as one of 42 non-governmental organization consultants. LWV believes that the United States should fulfil its obligations to the United Nations expeditiously and without restrictions. As part of a diverse, bipartisan coalition in support of the United Nations, LWV has lobbied key members of Congress on payment of United States arrears to the United Nations and activated members in key States on the issue. LWV also lobbied in the United States Congress for the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and worked with coalitions towards this aim. LWV has been one of the most steadfast supporters of the United Nations from the time of its establishment to the present day.

4. New Zealand Family Planning Association (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

The New Zealand Family Planning Association (Family Planning) is a non-governmental organization that provides clinical, educational and policy services with a view to ensuring the achievement of sexual and reproductive health

and rights for all. The Association has an international unit — Family Planning International — that focuses on advocacy and projects to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, particularly the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action and the Millennium Development Goals, through universal realization of sexual and reproductive health and rights. The only change in Family Planning since our Economic and Social Council application is that Family Planning International's geographical focus is now predominantly, but not exclusively, on the Pacific region (previously the unit's focus was equally spread across South-East Asia and the Pacific).

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: the Commission on the Status of Women: (a) 49th session: participated in regional meetings leading up to this session and attended the session as a non-governmental organization representative. Family Planning's Chief Executive attended as part of the New Zealand Government delegation; (b) 50th session: attended as a member of the New Zealand Government delegation; (c) 51st session: two Family Planning International staff members attended in their capacity as civil society representatives; (d) 52nd session: attended as a member of the New Zealand Government delegation. **Commission on Population and Development**: 40th session: two Family Planning International staff members attended in their capacity as civil society representatives. **World Summit**: the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the 60th session of the General Assembly: the Chief Executive attended as a member of the New Zealand Government delegation. **Family Planning activities**: (a) comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the targets set in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted at the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly and at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS. Family Planning Chief Executive attended as part of the New Zealand Government delegation; it also achieved New Zealand ministerial attendance at this meeting; (b) High-Level Meeting on AIDS, 10-11 June 2008. The Family Planning International Manager attended as a member of the New Zealand Government delegation. A representative of Positive Women attended on behalf of Family Planning as a New Zealand civil society representative; Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus: Family Planning sent a representative to this meeting as part of the New Zealand civil society delegation.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Family Planning has worked with UNFPA in a variety of ways. Every year we receive a small grant to work on raising awareness in New Zealand about population and development issues. This included providing secretariat support for the New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development. In collaboration with UNFPA, Family Planning hosted the annual launch of their State of the World Population report. Prior to and including 2005, we worked with UNFPA as the implementing agency for the Male Involvement in Reproductive Health Project in Fiji and Solomon Islands. This came to an end in late 2005. We keep in regular contact with the UNFPA Office of the Pacific and work together on issues where

appropriate and possible. We work with the UNDP Multi-Country Office in Fiji in building a Pacific network to achieve gender equality and we were actively engaged in the United Nations Gender Equality Architecture reform process.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: Family Planning International exists to advance internationally agreed development goals, in particular those set out in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Development Goals and other agreed goals, such as those in the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women. We do this by carrying out advocacy and projects that aim to promote sexual and reproductive rights and choices, and enable people to enjoy respectful sexual relationships and create healthy families. Our projects support partner organizations, primarily in the Pacific, to provide quality information and services to their communities. Our advocacy creates supportive environments, builds effective public policy and ensures adequate funding for population and development issues, in particular sexual and reproductive health, in international development activities.

In practice, the unit has a project in Papua New Guinea that aims to halt and reverse the spread of HIV, through working with men to be better sexual and reproductive partners. We have a home-based care project in Cambodia that supports women and children living with HIV. We inform and motivate New Zealand parliamentarians to take action to improve prioritization of population and development in New Zealand's official development assistance. We work with policymakers and programmers to ensure attention in their work to population and development. We produce resources and information to inform the general public of New Zealand, media, parliamentarians, policymakers and programmers about how sexual and reproductive health, and population and development, are vital in achieving internationally agreed development goals, and about international development in general.

5. Rodale Institute (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

The aims of the organization: Rodale Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that creates global solutions from the ground up. Our soil scientists and a cooperating network of researchers have documented that organic farming techniques offer the best solution to global warming and famine. We were founded in Kutztown, Pennsylvania, in 1947 by organic pioneer J.I. Rodale. Our Farming Systems Trial®, the longest-running United States study comparing organic and conventional farming techniques, is the basis for our practical training to thousands of farmers in Africa, Asia and the Americas. Our findings are clear: a global organic transformation will mitigate greenhouse gas emissions in our atmosphere and restore soil fertility. Our mission: we improve the health and well-being of people and the planet.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

The Rodale Institute undertook specific activities to advance the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, specifically the goals of ensuring environmental sustainability and developing global partnerships for development.

These specific activities are chronicled in the following sections.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: (a) 4 February-14 March 2008 — Mr. Amadou Makhtar Diop, Head of Rodale Institute's International Department and other key Rodale Institute staff participated in an online discussion on achieving sustainable development; (b) representatives attended the 60th and 58th Department of Public Information Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations; (c) March 2005 — preparatory meeting for the Economic and Social Council high-level segment to review/discuss the Millennium Development Goals.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters: (a) 1 January-31 July 2008 — the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture funded collaborative work, preparation of joint research papers and abstracts and presentations at international conferences. Abstract topics included greenhouse gases in agriculture, biological no-till, composting and soil fertility management, mycorrhizal fungi research and carbon sequestration.

Activities in line with internationally agreed development goals, particularly Millennium Development Goals: Funded international projects: (a) United States Agency for International Development/AFRICARE project 1 (ongoing): entitled "Timbuktu Food Security Initiative". Project funds pilot training on regenerative agriculture techniques and demonstration sites in Timbuktu and Dire, Mali. The Biketown Africa programme in collaboration with Rodale, provided bicycles to groups (such as health-care workers) fighting HIV/AIDS in Botswana, Namibia, Senegal and South Africa. Health-care workers used the bikes to distribute antiretroviral drugs and provide home care to people infected with HIV and disseminated information on how people can protect themselves from HIV and the importance of being tested for the virus; (b) 1 October 2004-30 March 2007, Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources Management Collaborative Research Support Program: the United States Agency for International Development and Virginia Polytechnic Institute funded research/case study reviews on the state of science in soil quality in the tropics. Mr. Hepperly prepared a text book chapter on field production systems for the review book. **Conferences/presentations: 2008**: (a) 16-20 June — International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements Organic World Congress Conference, "Cultivate the Future", Modena, Italy — representatives of Rodale Institute attended the conference and a poster was presented on energetics and oral statements made on organic no-till techniques and on organic agriculture and greenhouse gases; (b) 1 May — Al Gore's Solutions Summit, New York — participated in round-table discussions on solutions to the climate crisis; (c) 17-18 April — Organic Agriculture and Climate Change in Clermont-Ferrand, Lempdes, France — Mr. Hepperly was keynote speaker on biological agriculture and climatic change contribution to greenhouse gas emissions; (d) 13 and 14 March — International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements/International Society of Organic Agriculture Research International Symposium on Soil Fertility, Seoul, South Korea, entitled "Organic Agriculture in

Asia: Soil Fertility and Efficient Crop Production" — Mr. Hepperly presented on greenhouse gases and organic agriculture, discussed Rodale research, participated in scientific programmes. **2007**: (a) 4-8 November: international annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and Soil Science Society of America, New Orleans, LA, entitled "A Century of Integrating Crops, Soil and Environment" — Rodale Institute agronomist David Wilson spoke about organic farming techniques, including crop cover management and the no-till roller; (b) Fourth Annual Seeds of Change Global Summit held in August in Santa Fe; (c) Summer 2007 — Rodale Institute hosted students from Gyeongsang National University in the Republic of Korea and provided training on organic agriculture practices, including weed management, organic crops production, composting, organic pricing. **2006**: (a) 18-20 October International Symposium on Agroecology at Chapingo, Texcoco, Mexico — Mr. Hepperly spoke on the relationship of soil to crop and animal nutrition; (b) 9-15 July — 18th World Congress of Soil Science, Philadelphia — Rodale Institute attended the conference and presented a poster. **Partnership/collaboration development**: (a) non-governmental organizations conference, Zurich — proposal development and partnership meeting with NGO partners; (b) Women's Campaign International — collaborative partner on potential regenerative agriculture education projects in Liberia and Malawi; (c) the Rodale Institute discussed collaboration with the Board of the Organic Agriculture Center, along with the commitment of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, to create technical institutes to conduct research and training centres for the education of farmers in organic practices particularly designed for the specific agroecological needs of the region; (d) the Rodale Institute hosted staff of the United States Agency for International Development Food for Peace organization on several occasions at the Rodale Institute farm in Kutztown, Pennsylvania, for presentations/field tours to learn about organic agriculture and Rodale's research and to discuss a strategic planning process for international work; (e) representatives travelled on many occasions to Senegal/West Africa to meet with farmers, merchants and local and state Government officials and policymakers to discuss issues facing West African farmers, potential partnerships, to plan training sessions on regenerative/organic agriculture techniques and to discuss the role Rodale Institute could play in Senegal and opportunities to promote organic agriculture principles.

6. Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (Special: 2001)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur is a congregation of Catholic Sisters founded in France in 1804 to serve the needs of the poor, especially women and children. Traditionally, most members worked in formal education (kindergarten through university), although today they are also involved in a wide range of informal education projects, adult literacy, primary health care, rural development, direct services to the poor, and advocacy work for justice and peace. The most relevant line of the organization's mission statement is: "Women ... working with others for justice and peace for all". Most of the members today in Africa are local women working in primary and secondary education. However, increasingly the sisters have become involved in HIV/AIDS prevention and direct care of persons living with AIDS. In Latin America, members are mostly working in

rural areas and the slums which surround major cities. A major focus of their work is the empowerment of women through adult literacy, training them to be leaders in their communities and advocates on behalf of those lacking social amenities. The Japanese members work throughout the country in formal education, pre-school through university. In United States of America and Europe (Belgium, France, Italy, United Kingdom) members are involved in the full range of activities mentioned above but give more attention to advocacy on behalf of the poor. The greatest increase in membership continues to be in Africa (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Zimbabwe) and South America (Brazil, Nicaragua and Peru).

In July 2008, a representative body of the international membership met and named the following as priorities: addressing the growing inequality in the world; working with persons and peoples living in poverty, especially marginalized and abused women and children; responding to threats to the environment and the need for sustainable development.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: the principal focus of our non-governmental organization representative has been in the broad area of social development and the eradication of poverty. She has actively participated in all the meetings of the United Nations Commission for Social Development and served two terms as Chair of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations for Social Development. The representative has contributed to the preparation of documents in relation to the following themes: participation of those affected by policy; need to examine causes of social exclusion; international cooperation and partnerships; education as key to development; feminization of poverty; employment policies to engage youth and women; girls' education; importance of gender equality; link between poverty and HIV/AIDS; trafficking of women and children; migration and employment policy; child labour; rehabilitation and education programmes in prisons; human rights and employment policies; and government and NGO partnerships. Members of the organization have also participated in many sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Another area of keen interest is financing for development and the non-governmental organizations representative has regularly followed and participated in the many high-level dialogues in this area.

Cooperation with the United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The organization has sent participants to the Department of Public Information non-governmental organizations annual conference, including members from Africa and Europe, and its representative regularly follows the weekly information briefings. One member of the New York non-governmental organizations Office is an active, contributing member of the Working Group on Girls of the UNICEF Committee.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: members were engaged for two years in writing an online course on the Millennium Development Goals.

These were used extensively by the entire non-governmental organizations membership for their self-education and are now available to students in secondary and tertiary institutions through the organization's website. They are also increasingly being accessed by the larger public.

Activities in support of global principles: a member of the organization, Dorothy Stang, was a recipient of the United Nations Prize in the Area of Human Rights in 2008 for her work and death as a human rights defender of the landless farmers in the Brazilian Amazon. The non-governmental organizations representative of the organization regularly follows the relevant non-governmental organizations committees: on social development and its subcommittee on the eradication of poverty; and non-governmental organizations working groups on financing for development and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Ten times a year the representative issues the publication "SND at UN News Briefs", which keeps members informed of the work and issues at the United Nations. To help members understand better the work of the United Nations, the non-governmental organizations has sponsored 125 of its members to come from all the five continents for a stay of three days to two weeks. One member from the Democratic Republic of the Congo worked in the NGO Office for almost a full year and will be charged with getting the membership across Africa more involved.

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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. European Roma Rights Centre (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC) is an international public interest law organization engaged in a range of activities aimed at combating anti-Romani racism and human rights abuse of Roma. The approach of the ERRC involves strategic litigation, international advocacy, research and policy development and training of Romani activists. During the period, it maintained its strategic focus. There was an increased level of attention on work in Turkey, Ukraine and Russia.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

During 2007 and 2008, the ERRC cooperated with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Moldova to conduct research and prepare reports on the rights of Romani children in Moldova.

Written comments to: **United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** in Geneva, Switzerland: (a) concerning the Russian Federation at its seventy-third session (August 2008); (b) in conjunction with the Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions, Osservazione and Sucar Drom on the situation of Roma and Sinti in Italy, written and oral comments, seventy-second session (February-March 2008); (c) in conjunction with Vzajemne Souziti, concerning the Czech Republic, seventieth session (February-March 2007); (d) concerning Ukraine, sixty-ninth session (July-August 2006); and (e) on Roma rights issues in France, sixty-sixth session (February-March 2005).

United Nations Human Rights Committee in Geneva: (a) concerning the Republic of Macedonia, ninety-second session (March-April 2008); (b) concerning Ukraine at its eighty-eighth session (October-November 2006); and (c) concerning Kosovo on the occasion of the review of the Country Report of Task Forces on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), eighty-sixth session (March 2006).

The ERRC's summary of concerns pertaining to the human rights situation of Roma in Slovenia for consideration by the United Nations Human Rights Committee reviewing Slovenia's compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, eighty-fourth session (July 2005 in Geneva).

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at United Nations Headquarters: (a) by the European Roma Rights Centre, Bibija, Eureka and Women's Space concerning Romani women in Serbia at its thirty-eighth session (March 2007); and (b) concerning Romani women in Hungary at its thirty-ninth session (July 2007).

ERRC submitted a joint shadow report to the Committee at United Nations Headquarters: (a) concerning the situation of Romani women in the Republic of Croatia at its thirty-second session (January 2005); (b) in conjunction with the Roma Centre of Skopje and Network Women's Program concerning the situation of

Romani women and girls in Macedonia at its thirty-fourth session (January 2006); (c) in conjunction with Romani CRISS concerning the situation of Romani women and girls in Romania at its thirty-fifth session (May 2006); and (d) in conjunction with gender studies, o.p.s. and the League of Human Rights concerning the situation of Romani women and girls in the Czech Republic at the thirty-sixth session (August 2006).

Committee on the Rights of the Child concerning Hungary, forty-first session (January 2006, in Geneva).

United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Geneva: (a) concerning the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, in conjunction with the National Roma Centrum, at its thirty-seventh session (November 2006); and (b) concerning Ukraine, at the thirty-ninth session (November 2007).

United Nations Committee against Torture in Geneva concerning Macedonia on the occasion of its Review of Macedonia at its fortieth session (May 2008).

- International advocacy submission to the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as part of deliberations towards the next annual report of the Special Rapporteur to the Human Rights Council, according to decision 2004/110 of the Commission on Human Rights and decision 2006/102 of the Human Rights Council (November 2006).

The organization's representatives' participation at the: (a) review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly (February-March 2005, United Nations Headquarters); (b) the first United Nations Forum on Minorities (provided substantive background information on Roma educational issues and provided oral input at the Forum) (December 2008, Geneva); the ERRC received financial assistance from the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (2007, 2008) and the United Nations Democracy Fund (2008).

2. Firooznia Charity Foundation (Special; 2005)

1. Introduction

Firooznia Charity Foundation (Charity Institute) is a non-profit and private institute based in the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was founded by Mrs. Shafiqe Firooznia in 1999. The aims of this organization are to protect householder women and provide professional and technical training workshops in order to educate people, provide marriage compensation and dowry preparation to poor youth and housing for disadvantaged women. Firooznia Charity Foundation was formally registered on 14 August 1999. Following the positive actions of the Charity Institute, it succeeded in attaining special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Aims of the organization: (a) provide housing construction facilities for the elderly in Tehran and surrounding cities; (b) fishery culturing farms construction with the main aim of employment of families and registered farms; and (c) Housing Association development.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

The assistance of Firooznia Charity Institute is as follows: (a) dowry: Firooznia presented dowry to 176 young couples; (b) treatment and Aid Department: Firooznia referred patients to medical centres for examination, surgery, drug preparation and treatment; (c) social work: the task of this section is to provide psychology training and free consultation for women covered and their children to resolve spiritual matters; (d) entrepreneurship: more than 100 women householders were employed by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and job-finding centres. This section awarded professional and technical training workshop certificates. In addition, this section trained people in skills such as sewing, flower work, handicrafts, etc. Products produced by these people were sent to charity markets and internal forums for different occasions; (e) housing: Firooznia Charity Foundation bought 10 residential apartments via charity revenues and offered them to disadvantaged families. At present, there are eight buildings dedicated to women as mortgage and rent; (f) dress and nutrition distribution: about 2,000 grocery baskets were distributed to disadvantaged families during Ramadan and at the start of the school year that contained rice, vegetable oil, chicken, meat, fish, eggs, macaroni, detergents and sanitary materials; (g) cultural and social activities: more than 100 concerts were held during the last four years. The revenue obtained was dedicated to charity goals of the Foundation; (h) Charity markets: in 2005, the charity market was held in Neiavaran Palace for the first time. Subsequent markets have operated annually in the Art Museum Garden. The produce was sold by the recipient families and their children. Charity markets were held by the institute every month, and the profits were used for earthquake victims. During the last years, several markets were held periodically at different sites; (i) art: the institute's Gallery Foundation was held in different forums in the fields of drawing panels, handicrafts, projection, water colour, ceramics, etc.; (j) public relations, media and culture: various papers were printed about women's enrichment in Islamic society, research about women's situation and the role of family in society, professional training and master attaining along with art dissemination for women; (k) international affairs: the organization designed a website that includes historical events, goals and Firoozmia's organizational structure. After two years the site has been the basis for activities of development, responsibilities and our participation as a NGO in national and international areas.

3. Organization for International Economic Relations (Special; 1973)

I. Introduction

The Organization for International Economic Relations (OIER) was founded in Vienna in 1947, by a group of distinguished personalities from different countries, all of them deeply committed to the idea of integration. OIER has evolved to become a platform for the establishment and extension of economic and trade relations crossing all borders. It looks back on a 60-year history of successful international networking as a competent partner and a pioneer in the development and promotion of global economic processes. Extending its scope far beyond its original objective, the organization has become a worldwide forum for the discussion of economic, social, scientific and political issues. Its main activities are aimed at identifying global trends and important future-oriented issues relating to

sustainability, innovation, communication and mobility. On 30 June 2008, OIER celebrated its sixtieth anniversary with more than 200 international guests, representatives from economics, politics, the diplomatic corps, the media and science. The keynote speaker was the President of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, who spoke on the theme: "Networking in the Age of Globalization".

Expanded areas of activities: In 2005, OIER founded the United Global Academy, in cooperation with the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, Karl-Franzens-University Graz, Austria, and DaimlerChrysler, as a worldwide network of universities, academic management institutions, companies and international organizations, to unite innovation and creativity in favour of an international, future-oriented dialogue. The Academy deals with topics such as sustainability, intercultural exchange, mobility, innovation, international management and global social responsibility. With the academy, OIER is building the bridge from economics, politics and media to science and practical implementation, convinced that it takes a combination of knowledge, skills and research to conquer the future.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

2007: Representatives attended the following meetings, panel discussions and conferences at United Nations Headquarters: (a) January: the NGO Accountability Debate, Panel Discussion; (b) February: update on the work of the General Assembly; a briefing for NGOs; (c) March: breaking barriers: achieving balance in numbers and work-life; (d) April: panel discussion on human trafficking; (e) April: the role of the media: promoting psychosocial well-being globally; (f) May: UNU-MERIT: event on hydrogen fuel cells and alternatives in transport and energy; (g) June: Conference on Central America; (h) September: Sixtieth Annual DPI/NGO Conference; (i) October: "Sustainable Urbanization: Challenges and Opportunities in LDCs".

Vienna/Austria: February: official visit of United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to Vienna, participation in receptions and meetings.

2008: Representatives attended the following meetings, panel discussions and conferences at United Nations Headquarters: (a) February: meeting for NGOs with the President of the General Assembly; April: DPI/NGO briefing, "The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons"; (b) June: briefing on the theme "Kick the Habit: Towards a Low Carbon Economy; (c) June: briefing on investment and climate change; (d) July: panel discussion: human rights and counter-terrorism; (e) October: The Price of Dignity: Human Rights and Global Economics; (f) December: Exploring New Technologies in Media: Where do YOU Get Your News?

Activities in support of global principles: representatives of OIER took part in different events regarding globalization and its implications, the importance of international relations and future-oriented dialogue:

2006: June: organization of dissertation in cooperation with the regional government and chamber of commerce of Tyrol: "World at a Turning Point — The Importance of Transatlantic Relations"; November: participation in conferment of Premio Capo Circeo in Rome, Italy; organization of speech on "Perspectives for Europe and Africa" with regard to the G-8 summit in 2007;

2007: November: opening of the new World Bank offices in Berlin and in Vienna; January: meeting of the International Council with Dr. Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor of Germany, to discuss Africa, relating to the G-8 summit;

2008: (a) April: organization of United Global Academy Award at Karl-Franzens-University in Graz, Austria, as an annual international award for extraordinary achievements in international relations and science, with a speech on: "Globalization and Social Responsibility"; (b) June: commemorative event on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of OIER with more than 200 international guests, representatives from the fields of economics, politics, the diplomatic corps, the media and science; keynote speaker: Dr. Srgjan Kerim, President of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly; (c) July: commemorative event "60 Years Foreign Affairs Association".

Representatives of OIER took part in conferences, meetings and official visits regarding the development and promotion of international processes and international development cooperation in other countries:

2005: (a) February: Budapest: meetings with representatives from government and trade and commerce organizations and the media regarding economic relations in the Central and Middle European region; (b) April: working visit to St. Petersburg, Russian Federation; meetings with the governor of St. Petersburg and governmental representatives; (c) September: symposium on the theme "Sports and Economy — Cooperation with China in Sportive Events", organized by the Asia-Pacific Commission of German Economy in Berlin; (d) October: official visit of the Albanian State President Alfred Moisiu to Vienna, participated in meetings; (e) November: "Second Vienna Economic Forum — Go South East";

2006: May: organization in Munich of conference on the theme "European Encounters";

2007: (a) February: meeting with the Chinese Ambassador in Vienna, discussion on economic relations; (b) February: International Leadership Forum, Skopje, with personalities from the fields of politics, culture and media from 30 countries; (c) May: travel to Albania with a delegation, headed by President Dr. Leitl, with representatives from economy and international organizations, meetings with Albanian President Alfred Moisiu, Prime Minister Sali Berisha and Government members; (d) May: international economic talks in Vienna with Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, and Dr. Christoph Leitl, President of OIER and of the Federal Economic Chamber of Austria;

2008: (a) March: OIER Ambassadors' Lunch in Vienna with the Ambassador of the United Kingdom in Austria, Simon Smith, and a select circle of personalities from politics and economy; (b) March: Business Council Austria-Russia, Vienna, meetings on topical subjects in economic relations and business development.

Representatives of OIER took part in conferences, meetings and official visits regarding sustainable development, identifying global trends and important future-oriented issues relating to sustainability, innovation, communication and mobility:

2005: June: "Europa-Forum Wachau", St. Pölten, Austria, topic: "Perspectives for the Future";

2006: July: international conference of head of regional governments (in Canada, Brazil, South Africa and Germany) in Linz, Austria; main topic: "Politics for generations".

Considering education as a unifying factor, supporting people to become informed and active citizens in our interdependent world and helping to maintain peace, representatives of OIER took part in the following activities:

2005: (a) March: Foundation of United Global Academy at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, signing of the United Global Academy charter by the representatives of the University of Stellenbosch, Karl-Franzens-University Graz, DaimlerChrysler and OIER; (b) December: organization of "Alpe-Adria Science Award 2005" in Graz, dissertation on: "Responsibility as a Factor of Corporate Strategy"; (c) October: working visit to Trieste, Italy, meetings with the regional government and United World College of the Adriatic; (d) November: working visit, meetings with Government and Senate in Rome;

2007: (a) February: conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, "Education without Borders"; discussions of international experts and students about education, health, environment and economic development. United Global Academy student received an award for a project in South Africa "RUMOS Innovation is Hope"; (b) March: organization of United Global Academy Award for extraordinary achievements in international relations and science, speech on: "Perspectives of the relation Europe-Africa"; (c) November: twenty-fifth anniversary of the United World College of the Adriatic in Rome with State President Giorgio Napolitano and members of Government and Senate, which was celebrated as an example of international understanding and tolerance;

2008: February: Economic Forum UAE in Berlin; meetings with Minister Mohammed Al Gergawi and Minister Sheikha Lubna, to prepare the meetings during the forthcoming travel; (b) February: official visit to the United Arab Emirates, with representatives of the United Global Academy, meetings with Sheikh Nahayan Mabarak al Nahayan, Minister for Higher Education and Scientific Research of the United Arab Emirates, government members and high-ranking representatives of Higher Colleges of Technology and CERT Group of Companies; discussing possibilities of cooperation and interfaces between these institutions and the United Global Academy.

Representatives of OIER took part in conferences and meetings regarding the situation of Africa, the relations to other continents, especially Europe, information, humanitarian programmes and programmes for the promotion of education, advanced training and economic processes: (a) April 2005: event "People for People", Berlin, regarding the promotion of the humanitarian activities of this organization in the sectors of health, drinking water and education in Africa; (b) September 2006: organization of cultural lecture and discussion on the theme "Europe — Africa" at the Karl-Franzens-University Graz; (c) August 2007: travel to South Africa with a delegation headed by the Prime Minister of Baden-Württemberg, Günther Oettinger, meeting with President Thabo Mbeki and other government members; meetings on the subject of education and economy; (d) May 2007: World Bank Forum 2007 "Africa on the Rise".

In order to discuss the possibilities of finance influencing the development process, representatives of OIER attended the following conferences and meetings:

(a) February-March 2005: "European Business Council", travel to Dubai with experts in economy and finance, meetings; (b) December 2005: International Investment Conference in Dubai; (c) May 2008: visit to Vienna of Christine Lagarde, Minister of Finance of France.

4. Wellesley Centers for Women (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

For 35 years, the Wellesley Centers for Women (WCW) has been driving social change through its social science research projects and training programmes. Women's perspectives and experiences are at the centre of all this work, which addresses three major areas: the status of women and girls and the advancement of their human rights both in the United States and around the globe; the education, care and development of children and youth; and the emotional well-being of families and individuals. Issues of diversity and equity are central across all the work, as are the experiences and perspectives of women from a variety of backgrounds and cultures.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Representatives of WCW attended numerous meetings at United Nations Headquarters in New York, including sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women in 2005, 2006 and 2007. WCW and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) co-sponsored the programme "Partners or Strangers: Women's and Children's Rights Advocates", at the fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women (March 2007); co-sponsored with New York County Lawyers' Association and presented "Searching for the Roots of Violence: the Research Paradigm" at the Violence Against Women: From Critical Concerns to Collective Action Conference, which coincided with the fiftieth session of the Commission and which was part of a two-year advocacy effort of the NGO and the Commission on the Status of Women (March 2006); co-sponsored a side programme at the forty-ninth session of the Commission: "Women's Voices: Contested Territories", with the Anglican Consultative Council (March 2005); representatives also attended the Human Rights Committee meeting in 2006.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

(a) Publication with UNICEF, Legislative Reform on Child Domestic Labour — A Gender Analysis, publication pending. Advisory Board of the United Nations Evaluation Group is to develop evaluation guidelines for decision-making and accountability across the United Nations. The United Nations Evaluation Group brings together 43 units in the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, funds, programmes and affiliated organizations from the fall of 2008 through the present; (b) a project in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Advocacy and Capacity Development Tools on Women with Disabilities (October-December 2008). As a part of the project, publication with the United Nations, UNFPA, of "Disability Rights, Gender, and Development:

A Resource Tool for Action" (2008); (c) developed curriculum and conducted training programme on the human rights-based approaches and gender and child rights at the United Nations. The workshop was organized by the United Nations Secretariat for the new Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2008); (d) publication with UNICEF of the report of the Conference on Women and Children: The Human Rights Relationship (2008); (e) project in collaboration with UNICEF, "Promotion of the Convention on the Rights of the Child/CEDAW as Complementary Frameworks for National, Regional and Global Action, 1 September 2007 to 1 May 2008". As a part of the project, representatives and UNICEF organized and co-sponsored an innovative conference on the theme "Women and Children: The Human Rights Relationship", bringing together leading Asian women's rights and children's rights advocates to examine how linking the women's and children's rights agendas in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women can be mutually reinforcing, Bangkok, Thailand (December 2007); (f) a representative was an adviser to a member of the law reform initiative of UNICEF, spring 2006-December 2008; (g) publication with UNICEF, *Child Marriage and the Law* (2007).

5. Widows Rights International (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The main objective of Widows Rights International (WRI) is to support widows' and women's groups that are contesting the inequalities and injustices which have been imposed on widows of all ages by law and custom in many countries in Africa and South-East Asia. Many of the customs surrounding widowhood are not only psychologically and physically harmful; some are also life-threatening. Yet this violence against women is still absent from much of the human rights literature, which is largely silent on the topic. WRI seeks to bring this gross infringement of the human rights of widows to the attention of the wider international community, as well as work with national and international groups to bring an end to these violations. To achieve this, WRI has established partnerships with groups to which information is sent by means of a quarterly electronic newsletter, which discusses ways in which harmful laws and customs have been challenged, either through the courts or through lobbying local, regional or national parliaments to change oppressive laws. This information is also posted on WRI's website. WRI also seeks to support individual groups of women who are challenging the dispossession of widows, deserted or divorced women. Another aim is to maintain contact with widows' groups in our focus countries. During the period 2005-2007 we supported groups in India, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Uganda, Malawi and Cameroon, as well the Association of Strong Women Alone in Rajasthan, India. WRI is a member of the UK Women's National Commission, attends the preparatory briefings for the Commission on the Status of Women and collaborates on activities organized by the Women's National Commission at the United Nations.

Significant changes in the organization: WRI was able to undertake in 2008 a thorough evaluation of its activities with the help of a consultant provided by the Staples Trust, a British funding organization. The purpose is to enable WRI to continue efforts to employ staff, including a director who would build on the work

of the trustees. WRI is seeking additional funding to complete this exercise in the coming months.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

WRI's activities have been undertaken on the basis of objectives established by the United Nations in the areas of gender equality and human rights. In accordance with the areas of concern listed in the Beijing Platform for Action, as well as well as articles 2, 14, and 15 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the work that WRI is undertaking with groups supports United Nations actions to end one of the most overlooked but widespread infringements of the basic rights of millions of women and children.

In order to maintain our ability to support international advocacy, WRI has attended the forty-fifth through the forty-ninth sessions, the fifty-first through the fifty-third sessions and the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women. WRI also campaigned to include information on widows in shadow reports by countries and organizations to the Commission on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The theme at the fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, "Financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women", enabled WRI to advocate that, while a focus on promoting gender equality in development and decision-making is important, special efforts should be made to ensure that financial planning encompasses widowhood specifically. The specificity of the situation which widowhood uniquely imposes on women in many countries in the developing world can lead to a lack of both inheritance rights and land ownership, which results in serious financial deprivation. WRI has therefore continued to invite the Commission on the Status of Women to consider the need for special financial provisions for widows' rights in national and international promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment. The Commission on the Status of Women was also urged to include in the development agenda the link between the poverty of children and the lack of widows' human rights, which requires immediate attention by Governments. Appeals were made at the Commission meetings in 2007 and 2008 to all States parties, the Commonwealth, NGOs, and United Nations agencies to acknowledge that the rights of widows are an integral yet specific aspect of women's overall rights. WRI intends to make early contact with the newly appointed Special Rapporteur on violence against women to bring the special plight of widows to her attention. In addition, WRI has, since 2007, greatly increased its efforts to encourage research into the position and condition of widows in a number of South Asian and sub-Saharan African countries.

6. Women for Women's Human Rights: New Ways (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Women for Women's Human Rights (WWHR): New Ways is an independent women's non-governmental organization (NGO) founded in 1993. WWHR-New Ways aims at promoting women's human rights on the local, national, regional and international levels and enabling women to become active agents in the process for

social change, democratization and peace. It undertakes innovative and challenging projects, often setting precedents on the national and regional levels. Its programme activities combine a number of methods in a complementary manner in order to achieve a broad and sustainable impact. Through 15 years of sustainable activism, human rights training, advocacy, networking and publications, WWHR-New Ways has become a renowned organization nationally and internationally. It has served on Government and NGO delegations of Turkey to the United Nations women's conferences and has had special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council since 2005. WWHR has led many successful campaigns for law reform with the women's movement in Turkey on women's human rights and gender equality, such as the establishment of a protection order law against domestic violence, and Civil and Penal Code reforms. Since 1995, WWHR-New Ways has been operating the Human Rights Education Programme for Women throughout Turkey. With the most sustainable and widespread human rights training programme in Turkey, it has nationwide outreach in 42 cities. WWHR-New Ways also acts as the international coordination office of the Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies, a network of 45 organizations in 16 countries. In 1999, WWHR received the Association for Women's Rights in Development Leading Solutions Award, and in 2007 it was awarded the Gruber Foundation International Women's Rights Prize.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and major United Nations meetings

Over the reporting period, WWHR-New Ways participated, facilitated and/or coordinated NGO delegations of the regional network Coalition on Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies at the following meetings at United Nations Headquarters: (a) forty-ninth special session of the Commission on the Status of Women (February-March 2005): WWHR-New Ways facilitated and coordinated the participation of representatives of the Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies network advocating for sexual, reproductive and bodily rights as human rights in Muslim societies at the 2005 Commission on the Status of Women special session with the aim of contributing to international advocacy efforts to safeguard sexual and reproductive health and rights. The delegation of the Coalition consisted of 18 prominent activists from eight countries in the Middle East, North Africa and South/South-East Asia: Bangladesh, Egypt, Lebanon, Malaysia, the Philippines, Tunisia, Turkey and Yemen. The delegation prepared and delivered an NGO statement on behalf of the Coalition, calling on Governments to reaffirm the Beijing Plan of Action and take the necessary measures, including policies, programmes and legislative reforms, to safeguard and promote sexual and reproductive health and rights. The statement, one of the most progressive and forward-looking ones of the session, was highly acclaimed both by governmental and NGO delegations. In addition to coordinating the delegation, WWHR-New Ways worked with the Turkish official delegation during the session. Through intensive efforts, a member of WWHR-New Ways and a feminist ally parliamentarian from the opposition party were on the official delegation, thus creating the opportunity to work directly with the Turkish delegation; (b) the fiftieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (February-March 2006): one of the resolutions tabled in 2006 for the Commission on the Status of Women was "Women, the Girl-child and HIV/AIDS". WWHR-New Ways facilitated and

coordinated the participation of three members of the Coalition on Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies from Turkey, Egypt and Lebanon to lobby for strong language in the resolution together with international civil society. Since the 2006 High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS was to be held two months later, it was especially important to ensure the adoption of a strong resolution as the lead up to the special session. The delegation lobbied intensively during the negotiations on the resolution, drafting proposals and talking points to the friendly member States, including the sponsors, and providing them with old consensus language which helped in the negotiations. Overall, the resolution on "Women, the Girl-child and HIV/AIDS" contained good points and innovations, which represented a step forward, strengthening the position at the special session of the General Assembly. The strong points of the resolution included new references to the International Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and human rights, microbicides and male and female condoms, reproductive rights, sexual education; references to the International Conference on Population and Development, Beijing, reproductive health services, and new language on investment in research to develop female-controlled prevention methods; (c) United Nations High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS (May-June 2006): the delegation of the Coalition on Sexual and Bodily Rights and WWHR-New Ways included 14 network representatives from Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Tunisia, and Turkey. The delegates from Lebanon, Indonesia, and Malaysia were also on Government delegations. On 28 and 29 May, network meetings and international civil society preparation meetings were held to strategize for the special session of the General Assembly, and country missions were conducted. Prior to the beginning of the meeting, a member of the delegation from WWHR-New Ways spoke at the press briefing held with the United Nations Correspondents' Association. Two members of our delegation, from Egypt and Turkey, delivered speeches at the high-level round tables during the meeting, calling on Governments, in particular from the region, to take progressive stands on the Declaration vis-à-vis issues such as the rights of women and girls, sexuality, vulnerable groups and targets. In addition to advocacy and lobbying efforts during negotiations at the meeting, the delegation organized two panels as side events. The panels were entitled "Sexuality and HIV/AIDS in South/South-East Asia" and "Sex Education in Muslim Majority Countries and the Fight against HIV/AIDS". At the negotiations, the delegation decided to issue a statement on behalf of the Coalition, calling on Governments to change their positions and take necessary measures against the epidemic; (d) the fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women (February-March 2007): the Coalition and participation by the delegation of Turkey. The Commission on the Status of Women considered the topic "The elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child" as its priority theme. WWHR-New Ways participated in the session with three representatives. One WWHR member was appointed to the delegation of Turkey as an official delegate, due to a national campaign led by WWHR for the participation of women's NGOs in official delegations of Turkey to the United Nations since 2005. This was a key factor in making Turkey one of the most progressive and active delegations during the negotiations. With two other members participating as NGO representatives, WWHR-New Ways co-coordinated the regional NGO delegation of the Coalition, including five other members of the network from Egypt, Tunisia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Turkey. The Coalition's experience over the last few years enabled the delegation to actively partake in and lead international NGO efforts, work in

depth on resolutions, and increase the visibility of advocacy efforts from our regions. The Coalition also issued an NGO statement during the session, which was disseminated extensively to Government delegations, NGOs and United Nations officials. The session concluded with a successful outcome document. The document included strong references to girls' human rights, sexual and reproductive health and rights, girls' empowerment, universal access to education, including sexual education, and the allocation of resources by member States to promote girls' human rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Women and Due Diligence Expert Group Meeting (Geneva, September 2005): the founding President of WWHR-New Ways participated in this high-level expert round table held by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women; participation at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Expert Group Meeting on Regional Strategies for implementing the recommendations from the Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women (Bangkok, April 2006): at this international expert group meeting, WWHR-New Ways made a presentation on the success of human rights-based advocacy in Turkey in bringing about legal reforms which abolished provisions permitting violence against women on the basis of traditional concepts, and contributed to the preparation of concluding recommendations; Expert Group Meeting on Good Practices in Legislation on Violence against Women (Vienna, May 2008): at this meeting WWHR-New Ways participated to share best practices in legislation on violence against women and challenges of implementation and to present a paper on the case of Turkey.

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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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I. China Family Planning Association (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

China Family Planning Association (CFPA) is the largest non-governmental network in China active in reproductive health, family planning and HIV/AIDS prevention and care. CFPA was founded in 1980 and became a full member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation in 1983. Its mission is to act as a channel for external resources and expertise while taking a role in public mobilization and education for population and health programmes. In its first decade, CFPA established a branch in almost every village in China and mobilized some 94 million members and volunteers. The network soon developed into a two-way channel of communication between the public and the Government, and in many cases provided a forum for health professionals and community activists supportive of rational regulation and higher-quality services. In the mid-1990s, the Association's informal advocacy and monitoring mandate was officially recognized by the central Government, which endorsed its role in policy reform and programme oversight at local and provincial levels.

China's endorsement of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals encouraged CFPA in many parts of China to expand projects already integrating reproductive health and women's empowerment into community development and anti-poverty efforts. **Four core missions**: CFPA (a) concentrates on serving those who are not reached by the Government or the expanding private sector, such as the poorer, younger, rural and migrant populations; (b) recognizes that women face acute social challenges in the nation's economic restructuring and seeks practical ways to empower women educationally and economically and expand their opportunities and choices; (c) recognizes that contraception is only one element, albeit vital, in a spectrum of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health-care services that must be universally accessible, regardless of income or geography; (d) upholds total transparency in public decisions and complete accountability in public programmes, exercising its mandate of democratic participation and supervision as a model for civil society. **Five strategic focus areas**: As a member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, CFPA actively supports local, provincial and national initiatives.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The programmes of CFPA focus on poverty alleviation, improvement of adolescent reproductive health and gender equality. Senior representatives and youth members of CFPA participated in various meetings/conferences: **2005**: Third Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health, with the theme "Expanded and comprehensive response in sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all communities" (Marina Mahathir, Malaysia). **2006**: XVI International AIDS Conference (Toronto, Canada); one booth was managed by CFPA in the global village and one oral presentation on partnership with adults was presented during the conference; **2007**: (a) 60th Annual Department of Public Information/ Non-Governmental Organization Conference, "Climate change: how it impacts us all" (United Nations Headquarters); (b) Eighth International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific titled "Waves of change, waves of hope" (Colombo); (c) Fourth

Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights, organized under the theme "Exploring new frontiers in sexual and reproductive health and rights" (Hyderabad, India). **2008**: 61st annual Department of Public Information/ Non-Governmental Organizations conference, "Reaffirming human rights for all, the Universal Declaration at 60" (Paris).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and other specialized agencies in the field of reproductive health: All the projects were planned and implemented for the realization of the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action and Millennium Development Goals: **Goals 3 — Promote gender equality and empower women, Goal 4 — Reduce child mortality, Goal 5 — Improve maternal health and Goal 7 — Ensure environmental sustainability**.

Adolescent sexual and reproductive health education: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) country programme (2006-2010): due to the excellent achievements of CFPA in adolescent sexual and reproductive health education, it is one of the implementation agencies of the China/UNFPA family planning and other reproductive health programmes (2006-2010) and is mainly responsible for young migrants and the establishment of youth networks as well as condom use promotion among the high-risk groups. By taking advantage of its extensive network, CFPA promoted the increased availability of high-quality, client-centred, gender-sensitive reproductive health and family planning information and services, including those focusing on HIV/AIDS and client rights, as well as migrants, in project areas. **Cooperation with the International Labour Organization (ILO)**: As there are about 200 million people in China who migrate from the rural to the urban areas for employment, to prevent unsafe sex, unwanted pregnancies and abortions, CFPA cooperated with ILO to select enterprises for pilot education on sexual and reproductive health among young people, including of HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) prevention, contraceptive use and relationship and value clarification. A high-level advocacy meeting was organized to draw attention to adolescent sexual and reproductive health, especially among girls and young women. Various Government departments and national and international NGOs were invited and the formulation and amendment of related policies were promoted. A youth forum was held to discuss issues and challenges facing young people, university students, sex workers and men having sex with men and service providers were invited. **China Youth Network**: The objective was to increase the availability of high-quality, integrated, client-centred, gender-sensitive reproductive health and family planning information and services, including those focusing on HIV/AIDS and client rights, for women, men, young people and migrants in project areas. Youth representatives and mentors in the 30 UNFPA project counties were selected and trained with the cooperation of the National Population and Family Planning Commission of China at national and county level. A Peer Education tool kit and the Youth Partnership Manual — Collaboration and Advocacy were edited, translated and printed. **Life skills training**: In order to identify the situation of the project counties and the issues to be addressed in the project, CFPA organized a baseline survey on the existing situation and needs in terms of sexual and reproductive health among young migrants in project sites. The results of the survey were used as a reference to draw up action plans, a curriculum and information, education and communication/behaviour change communication materials for the project and for decision-making in the workplan. Life planning skills training was provided to the

young people in and out of school. **RAP (Rights, Acceptance, Participation) tool**[1] **development**: With the support of the Government of the Netherlands, CFPA conducted a project in cooperation with the Rutgers Nisso Group and the World Population Foundation in Jiangsu Province, and a meeting for the training of trainers was conducted in the past two years. **Men's participation and gender equality**: In cooperation with PATH (Programme of Appropriate Technology in Health), a project named "Promoting men's health and gender equality" was implemented in some factories where male workers participate. **HIV/AIDS/STI prevention**: Due to the excellent results on HIV/AIDS prevention in Liuzhou by the "100% condom use" project, UNFPA selected CFPA project site Liuzhou as the model in its country programme for the other project counties. A UNFPA country programme (2006-2010) of 100% condom use promotion in entertainment establishments was implemented, involving close collaboration with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Awareness of condom use and voluntary testing and counselling services among the target group increased. A multisector cooperation mechanism was established in each project county and staff capacity in the project sites has been strengthened. **High-level advocacy meetings held on the International Planned Parenthood Federation Report Card on HIV prevention among girls and young women**: A National Youth Forum was held to gain the views of young people from diverse groups, including gays and lesbians and sex workers. A National Stakeholder Forum, involving Government and international agencies, was held to address the implementation of the Report Card's recommendations. **HIV/AIDS prevention activities during the Olympic Games**: The twenty-ninth Olympic Games were held in Beijing in August 2008. It was vital to increase awareness and improve the knowledge of HIV and STI prevention among thousands of youth volunteers and service providers entertainment establishments. Activities on HIV/AIDS prevention were conducted among youth in 138 bars on the street. **Scaling-up the experiences on HIV/AIDS prevention to the general population and high-risk groups in more counties**: Since 1998, CFPA has successfully made improvements and developed progress in HIV/AIDS prevention education to reach millions of urban youth and rural emigrants, as well as Family Planning Association members as potential community opinion leaders. With the support of the International Planned Parenthood Federation and JTF (Japan Trust Fund for HIV and AIDS), CFPA carried out HIV/AIDS prevention projects among men having sex with men in Wuhan, Hubei Province. The project was welcomed by the participants and it was a success, as there was a large gathering of men seeking information. With the call of CFPA on HIV/AIDS prevention, a variety of activities were created by local Family Planning Associations all over the country using the occasions of the anniversary of CFPA (29 May) and World AIDS Day (1 December). With the recognition of HIV/AIDS prevention as one of the key strategy areas for CFPA, the Association acquired funding from the Chinese Government to carry out the programme nationwide. CFPA has expanded the HIV/AIDS prevention programmes to more counties and training workshops and forums for exchange of experiences were held. As a member of the Country Coordinating Mechanism of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, CFPA implemented a series of activities on HIV/AIDS prevention for groups such as prisoners, fishermen, soldiers, truck drivers, etc. **Men who have sex**

[1] RAP: Rights (young people are able to lead a healthy sex life), Acceptance (young people are

with men: HIV/AIDS prevention projects were held in some selected provinces as the HIV/STI epidemic is increasing rapidly among these men. **Cares programmes**: CFPA cooperated with 10 other departments to issue a document on the cares programme campaign that provides assistance to some special groups, namely, parents who have lost a child, women of childbearing age, girls, and family planning staff at the grass-roots level. About RMB 33 million were donated by all walks of life in China to support the cares program project. A national launch meeting and a thanksgiving meeting were conducted in the People's Congress Hall by CFPA; vice premiers were invited to participate in the meeting for high-level advocacy. **Muslim reproductive health promotion**: There are more than 20 million Muslims in Ningxia and Xinjiang. Funded by the Ford Foundation, CFPA continues its work to promote reproductive health among the Muslim population via Muslim leaders by advocating for healthier lifestyles involving washing before intercourse, putting underwear in the sun, taking care during the menstrual period and nurturing good habits. Health check-ups and counselling in reproductive health have also been provided to Muslim women. **Actions after the earthquake**: After the earthquake disaster in Sichuan, CFPA cooperated with UNFPA and UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), and other international agencies to support the people affected by the earthquake and provided psychological therapy.

2. International Centre for the Legal Protection of Human Rights (Special; 1993)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The International Centre for the Legal Protection of Human Rights (INTERIGHTS) provides leadership and support in the legal protection of human rights. It works to ensure that human rights standards are defended effectively in both domestic courts and before regional and international bodies. It contributes to the development of a cumulative and progressive interpretation of universal human rights and to their effective use in both international and regional arenas as well as national courts. It aims to ensure that not only are existing standards protected, but that standards are developed regarding new issues of concern, such as threats to fundamental human rights posed by the counter-terrorism measures adopted by some States.

INTERIGHTS has four main methods of working: (a) providing expertise and support on strategic human rights litigation in priority thematic areas and other issues of particular regional significance or impact; (b) building legal capacity through targeted training in human rights law and through litigation together with local partners; (c) disseminating legal information that enhances the use of human rights law and practice; (d) contributing to international and regional human rights standard-setting.

The thematic areas, taking into account shifting areas of threat and new opportunities for jurisprudential development, are: economic and social rights, equality, and security and the rule of law.

INTERIGHTS works regionally in Africa, Europe, the Commonwealth, the Middle East and North Africa, and South Asia and holds observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Council of Europe, and is

European Social Charter. It has accredited status with the Commonwealth Secretariat.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

INTERIGHTS, in conjunction with the Fiji Human Rights Commission, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Commonwealth Secretariat organized a colloquium and workshop on the theme "Justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights in the Pacific" in Suva in June 2006. The seminar brought together jurists from across the Pacific Islands region, together with Australia and New Zealand, to discuss the role of and the challenges faced by the judiciary in protecting economic, social and cultural rights. The event was the first of its kind in the region and should contribute to the development of economic, social and cultural rights jurisprudence both locally and beyond. In addition to hearing commentaries by local judges, participants attended a number of sessions given by international experts on issues such as non-State actors and economic, social and cultural rights, the role of a national human rights institution in securing economic, social and cultural rights protection, the international legal framework and justiciability at the domestic level. These were complemented by a practical exercise on the right to health organized by the regional office of OHCHR.

INTERIGHTS is a member of a coalition of NGOs supporting the creation of an optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and has played an active role in recent years in a dialogue between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which is a member of the Working Group, and civil society on the potential value and content of an optional protocol.

Cooperation with the United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field

INTERIGHTS provides advice to lawyers, judges and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on the effective invocation of United Nations human rights standards in cases worldwide at the domestic and regional levels and on the techniques of utilizing international mechanisms in specific cases.

INTERIGHTS Bulletin, published twice a year, contains summaries of decisions from United Nations juridical bodies such as the Committee against Torture, the Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Human Rights Committee. It also includes articles about topics relating to the practical use of international human rights law, including United Nations instruments and information about recent developments.

The *Commonwealth Human Rights Law Digest*, issued twice a year, carries summaries of human rights-related decisions of senior international and Commonwealth national courts. Judgements have been featured from almost all Commonwealth jurisdictions, particularly those which refer to United Nations or regional human rights standards.

Commonwealth Net is a monthly e-mail of significant human rights decisions from common law jurisdictions which is compiled by INTERIGHTS and e-mailed [illegible]

international human rights case law databases containing summaries of decisions of the United Nations Human Rights Council, the Committee against Torture and other United Nations human rights bodies. The databases hold over 2,000 case summaries and are freely accessible to users around the globe.

In 2005, the INTERIGHTS Litigation Director published *The 'War on Terror' and the Framework of International Law* (Cambridge University Press), setting out the international legal framework governing terrorism and counter-terrorism and highlighting examples of international practice since 11 September 2001. The publication refers to the role of the United Nations, mainly the Security Council, and to various United Nations instruments and committees. The INTERIGHTS Senior Lawyer on Economic and Social Rights contributed to the Accountability of Health Professionals project coordinated by the former Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest obtainable standard of physical and mental health.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: Goal 2 — Achieve universal primary education: In February 2007 INTERIGHTS published *INTERIGHTS Bulletin*, Volume 15, Issue 4 — Empowering the Next Generation: Securing the Right to Education in the Next Millennium.

3. Jaime Guzman Errazuriz Foundation (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The Jaime Guzman Foundation (FJG) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) working locally in Chile encouraging young professionals to work in the public service, such as working in low-income municipalities or in other NGOs. We also have a programme to promote young professional work in Congress studying legislative issues, and in municipalities.

Change in the directory and executive director: While the organization's aims and purposes remained the same, the change in the administration has had an impact on the work of the organization, improving our public profile.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nation

The organization did not participate in the work of the Economic and Social Council or its subsidiary bodies, in major conferences or other United Nations meetings during the reporting period because it focused its activities on the development and implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, especially reducing poverty in Chile.

Meanwhile, we are following the issues closely and we try to inform the National Congress about what is going on in the United Nations: (a) Follow-up to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. In March 2008, International Labour Organization Convention No. 169 was approved in Chile; our organization negotiated the terms of the law that was approved. Now we have one representative working on the drafting of a new indigenous law; (b) Research papers: "The case presented in the International Court of Justice about the maritime controversy

discussions with officials of the World Bank in November 2008 and incorporated significant improvements to the theoretical framework for the "family index" that was discussed on that occasion.

Activities in line with Millennium Developments Goals: Goal 1 — Eradicate extreme poverty. Our programme "Jóvenes al servicio de Chile" is deployed in 93 different places all over the country in 70 municipalities, representing 22 per cent of the municipalities of Chile. **Goal 2** — Achieve universal primary education. Twenty professionals from the programme have been working in the period 2005-2008 in the education field; they are in schools, developing educational programmes, and also work to improve the quality of education in the most vulnerable sectors. The impact of these young professionals is very difficult to measure in the short time they have been working, but municipalities, schools and education NGOs continue to demand professionals from our institution.

4. Law Association for Asia and the Pacific (Special; 1981)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The Law Association for Asia and the Pacific (LAWASIA) was established in 1966 and has continued to function as the pre-eminent legal association representing the profession in the region. Its aims and objectives include, inter alia, to: (a) promote the administration of justice, the protection of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law within the region; (b) advance the standard of legal education within the region by all practicable means; (c) encourage communication and liaison between members in relation to general and specialized areas of law; (d) promote development of the law in the region; (e) advance the science of jurisprudence in all its phases and to promote the study and development of international law and of comparative law; (f) promote uniformity within the region in appropriate fields of law; (g) further international understanding and goodwill; (h) foster relations and interaction between lawyers and associations and organizations of lawyers within the region; (i) uphold and advance the status of the legal profession within the region.

LAWASIA achieves its aims and objectives through arranging regional interface between lawyers and between the associations that represent them. It delivers high-level continuing legal education at regular conferences and seminars, aimed at promoting cross-jurisdictional exchanges of information amongst developed jurisdictions as well as capacity-building in developing jurisdictions. It releases public statements, writes letters, and arranges observer missions and other interventions on issues of importance to the legal profession throughout the region. In doing this, it also encourages attention to matters pertaining to the rule of law and human rights. It publishes a range of material aimed at increasing legal education in the region in support of the rule of law, the administration of justice and a mutual understanding of legal regimes, principles and legislation throughout the region. Importantly, it provides a representative voice for the legal profession of Asia and the Pacific, which is facilitated through the membership of nationally representative legal associations of 26 members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific region.

The peak legal body of each of these countries holds a seat on the LAWASIA Council, which meets annually at various locations throughout the region. Since its last quadrennial report, LAWASIA has added Timor-Leste, the Solomon Islands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (via the Law Society of England and Wales) to its member countries. It works continually to encourage the representative legal bodies of various non-member countries in the region to participate as members in a regional association of the legal profession that is focused on upholding the rule of law and promoting human rights.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Professor Maxime Tardu was LAWASIA's accredited representation at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and at the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and at Headquarters. The representative regularly attended, observed and reported on sessions of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and, subsequently, the Human Rights Council. His reports on discussions, resolutions and issues were reproduced in the organization's newsletter, the "LAWASIA Update." He reported on United Nations reforms in 2005, including the establishment of the United Nations Human Rights Council, resolutions of the Council affecting Asian-Pacific countries and discussions on the universal periodic review mechanism. In July 2008 he travelled to Australia where he addressed a group of LAWASIA members on the changes and challenges to the human rights system at the United Nations. The Executive Committee and Country Councillor for Nepal attended the United Nations 58th Annual Department of Public Information/ Non-Governmental Organizations Conference in New York in September 2005.

LAWASIA assisted the Japan Bar Association and the International Criminal Bar in the organization of a seminar on the International Criminal Court and the accession of Asian countries to the Rome Statute (Tokyo, 2007).

LAWASIA is prevented by a limited budget and voluntary participation from attending many United Nations conferences and meetings. However, its publicly released statements of principle, etc. will frequently be based on or refer to United Nations conventions, treaties, principles, statements, etc. These include but are not limited to the following: (a) reference to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and United Nations activity in observer mission report on Nepal, May 2005; (b) reference to the Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers adopted by the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Havana, 1990) in the following: (i) statement condemning violence against lawyers/judges in the Philippines, 7 November 2005; (ii) letter to the Prime Minister of Malaysia concerning the safety of lawyers appearing in the Lina Joy apostasy case, August 2006; (iii) statement condemning the attack on a Sri Lankan human rights lawyer, 13 October 2008; (iv) letter to the Attorney General of Myanmar on the rights of lawyers, 12 November 2008; (v) statement of support for the establishment of the United Nations Human Rights Council, October 2005; (vi) support for the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and a moratorium on the use of death penalty, in a LAWASIA position statement on the death penalty, 31 October 2008.

Support of views expressed by United Nations representatives on: (a) international support to provide resources for an alternative justice mechanism to complete the work of the Serious Crimes Unit and Special Panels for Serious Crimes in East Timor, October 2005; (b) statement on the use of force in dealing with protesters in Nepal, 19 April 2006; (c) statement on unrest in Tibet, Autonomous Region of China, 7 April 2008; (d) statement calling for aid following cyclone devastation in Myanmar, May 2008. Wherever possible and appropriate, United Nations representatives are among specially targeted speakers for LAWASIA conferences and meetings within the relevance of the material under discussion. The "LAWASIA Update" regularly carries reports and news of United Nations initiatives.

5. Society for Development of Services in Heliopolis (Special; 1997)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The Heliopolis Development Association is an NGO working to develop the local society through the following activities. **Education**: Believing that education and raising the level of educational institutions is the best way to put the new generations on the right track that leads to achieving their goals, the Association helps in: (a) developing educational institutions and upgrading their facilities, providing the services needed for the activities associated with the education process and training teachers; (b) developing the residential areas surrounding schools to create a better social environment for the students to allow better health, social and educational care. **Culture**: The Association contributes to: (a) establishing and running libraries (public and school libraries as well as mobile libraries), organizing cultural contests and holding conferences and workshops; (b) establishing museums; (c) establishing parks. **Health**: (a) upgrading the level of medical services in public hospitals and medical centres; (b) organizing medical caravans for different parts of Egypt; (c) launching campaigns for raising awareness about health issues (immunization and blood donation campaigns). **Environment**: (a) raising public awareness about environmental issues and problems among different categories of the society through providing a "green corner" in the libraries as well as launching environmental awareness campaigns; (b) incorporating the environment aspect as a main element of the Association's policies and plans through sponsoring projects for maintaining the architectural heritage and urban designs. **Consumer protection**: (a) organizing conferences and seminars for consumer protection; (b) publishing periodicals and briefing papers on consumer protection. **Economic development**: (a) cooperating with different associations and agencies to set up small enterprises in rural areas to help eliminate the problem of unemployment; (b) signing contracts and protocols with economic institutions to develop and invest in the resources of the Association. It is worth mentioning that the geographic area for the Association's activities has been broadened to include Egypt as a whole and not only Cairo Governorate.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization did not participate in the work of the Economic and Social Council or its subsidiary bodies, in major conferences or other United Nations meetings

during the reporting period because it focused its activities on the development and implementation of the Suzan Mubarak Museum for Children — Suzan Mubarak Family Garden and the project of developing 100 schools (see below).

Activities of the Association: The Association developed various projects in order to achieve its goal of developing the society. The most important among these projects are: **Suzan Mubarak Museum for Children** is surrounded by a 13 feddan [about 13.5 acres] garden. Her Excellency Suzan Mubarak, head of the board of directors, also heads a working team of Egyptian and international experts in the fields of science, technology, history, geography, child psychology, education, environment, geology and construction, which works to make this museum a comprehensive technological and educational space that provides the child with a comprehensive framework presenting Egypt. The museum was inaugurated on 30 May 1996. The idea was to create interaction between children and human and natural elements in their surrounding environment so that by using all their senses and intellectual capabilities they could get to know the relations between things and their environment. The children's journey through the museum allows them to discover themselves and to realize that they are part of a whole and to be a useful part of this whole. The museum depicts the story of mankind, nature and civilization in Egypt and its development throughout history. Out of Mrs. Mubarak's desire to keep the museum up to date with the recent world technological developments, renovations were begun in 2006 according to the latest technology of museums around the world; the renovation is in progress.

Suzan Mubarak Family Garden: The Heliopolis Development Association, headed by H. E. Mrs. Suzan Mubarak, established a garden that benefits the whole family. The garden was designed following the latest electronic and entertainment technologies. It is located on 42 feddans [43.5 acres] in the New Cairo area. Establishing this garden was a distinguished activity as it encompasses social, cultural, educational and development activities. The garden has many divisions: (a) reception and the management building exhibiting artwork done by children in the workshops affiliated to the garden and a theatre; (b) The palace of discovering talents and the five senses: this is an oval-shaped theatre with five halls that symbolize the five senses, and the building is in the shape of a hand. It has a number of workshops to assist children to develop the skills of social interaction and intellectual creativity as well as exhibition rooms for the children's art; (c) entertainment area: this consists of a number of restaurants and entertainment areas that have the latest entertainment games; (d) children's playgrounds: these are reserved for children less than 10 years old; (e) lotus playgrounds: this is an area reserved for children less than 10 years old. It has a pergola for musical bands and an open area for games; (f) safari area: this is a small zoo that has a variety of animals and birds; (g) the lake restaurant: this restaurant overlooks an artificial lake, where there are various birds like swans and ducks; (h) the forest restaurant: designed to blend with nature, it sells fast food and souvenirs; (i) the rural area: this area has many workshops for textiles and weaving, where children learn to make carpets, sew and embroider as well as to make pots and art from palm leaves; (j) the train: this is the main means of transportation which moves through the different parts of the garden; (k) the plant garden: this is an area used for cultivating different types of plants and has workshops to inform children about different types of plants and animals and how to take care of and deal with them.

A project developing 100 schools: Based on an initiative launched by H.E. Mrs. Suzan Mubarak in July 2006, the Association started a project to develop 100 schools in East Cairo with the help of businessmen. A total of 100 schools were renovated within 15 months. The renovation process included 2,860 classrooms and it benefited 150,000 students in 47 elementary schools, 29 preparatory schools, 13 high schools and 9 technical schools as well as 2 comprehensive schools. The renovation was not limited to the school buildings only; it included training for 1,200 teachers, 1,000 headmasters, 54 administrative staff and 120 women in the council of schools secretaries. It was decided to continue the project through the following steps: (a) first step: undertake small maintenance work during mid-year vacation for the schools that were renovated and undertake full maintenance work on the schools during the summer vacation to maintain its renovation status; (b) second step: to finish the training process for all the people involved in the project by 2010; (c) third step: to upgrade the technological infrastructure of these schools; (d) fourth step: the most important one, as it will guarantee the efficiency of the project based on a council of secretaries for the renovated schools. One hundred and twenty women participated in the project; (e) fifth step: related to providing health care, the fifth step is based on coordinating with the Ministry of Health as well as the health insurance agency to establish/upgrade the clinics in the renovated schools and provide computers with a link to the health insurance system network; in the meantime, the presence of doctors and nurses in the schools has been extended in proportion to the number of students in each school; (f) sixth step: to guarantee funding for the project for the year 2006/07 through donations by businessmen and the insurance companies. After the success of this project in these needy areas, in order to achieve comprehensive development of all the other services in these areas, the Government, through coordination with other ministries, undertook many development projects that solved problems by the end of 2008. The success of the project in Cairo encouraged the Association to extend it to other governorates.

Heliopolis Library: Since its inauguration in 1984, the Heliopolis Library has been considered one of the pioneer libraries in the field of cultural, social and technological activities. One of the main objectives of the Heliopolis Library is to educate youth. The library provides them with culture in various fields as well as helping them to develop their talents and skills by providing computer training programmes, workshops and seminars dealing with various topics and holding contests to train youth on competition and creativity. A computer centre affiliated to Heliopolis Library holds training programmes and lectures for youth and children.

Cinema club affiliated to Heliopolis Library: This cinema club was established in 1984 and it shows Arabic and foreign movies every Friday and Saturday. There is annual and semi-annual membership in the cinema club as well as tickets for non-members to allow everybody to enjoy the shows.

Future Library: Since its inauguration in 1994, the Future Library affiliated to the Association has worked hard to be a model for collective efforts aimed at serving and developing the society on the cultural, social and educational levels. The library witnessed remarkable progress on various activities: it held 22 computer courses which benefited 326 persons, in addition to 11 language courses which benefited 3,343 persons. The library organized 162 child-development courses that benefited

great intellectuals and artists, so as to introduce their models to the youth and children. The youth participated in organizing the activities held at the library to train them on the culture of volunteer work. It cooperated with the NGOs in Heliopolis through hosting a number of NGO activities of common interest such as seminars and workshops.

Seminars committee: This committee organized seminars dealing with different topics (political, religious, cultural, social and economic) to raise awareness on different aspects of the topics discussed.

Health committee: The Association exerts serious efforts to upgrade the medical service in governmental hospitals and medical centres in Cairo. It provided medical equipment to hospitals, medicines to poor patients and donations to hospitals and patients, and organized medical caravans and health awareness campaigns in different governorates and training courses to doctors and nurses to upgrade their skills.

Committee of associations, environment and customs protection: This committee helped to raise awareness on the environment and other issues in the society by organizing awareness campaigns and publications. The committee provided garbage bags to Heliopolis residents and it played a role in raising awareness on bird flu through publication on the disease and its symptoms, and how to prevent infection by the virus. The Ministry of Environment honoured the committee at a celebration on World Environment Day, 5 June 2007, for the distinguished effort in improving the environment and adding a touch of beauty to Heliopolis district. The committee played an important role in protecting customs, as it held a fair on fraudulent goods as well as printing publications on how to identify quality products, so as to raise customs' awareness on how to differentiate between the proper goods and the fraudulent ones. The committee celebrates the Day of the Orphan Child each year on 1 April. It invites famous singers and actors to celebrate with and distribute gifts to the orphans as well as to those who look after those orphans.

Committee of Heliopolis Golden Jubilee: This committee was established in 2005 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Heliopolis. The committee supervised preparations for the festival, as well as the celebration of International Women's Day, the spring festival and the anniversary of Heliopolis Library.